FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 NOVEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

North Lebanon Fighting — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat admitted in a telephone call to AFP that the Nahr al-Barid camp fell to attacking dissident forces on 6 November. KUNA later reported a telephone interview in which 'Arafat denied that the camp had fallen, saying that it was besieged by a division and two brigades supported by rocket launchers and 150-170 heavy guns. Palestinian information official Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahim told KUNA that Nahr al-Barid had not been occupied by the attackers, though in military terms it had "lost its value." He added that the attackers had also cut the coast road linking the camp with the Al-Baddawi camp further south. Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported that pro-'Arafat forces withdrew from Nahr al-Barid to Al-Baddawi and 'Arafat moved his headquarters into Tripoli.

Beirut radio also stated that the attacking dissident forces had advanced as far as the refinery area near Tripoli, capturing the coast road, areas adjacent to the Al-Baddawi camp, and Mount Turbul, where the North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio transmitter was located. A radio station calling itself the "Voice of the Palestinian Revolution, the voice of the Palestine Liberation Organization" was heard broadcasting on frequencies formerly used by North Lebanon Voice of Palestine, which had not been monitored since the station was reported seized by dissident forces on 3 November.

Reporting the overall death toll in recent fighting, AFP cited unofficial estimates that losses from 3 to 6 November amounted to 215 killed and over 300 wounded, while the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that 150 more were killed on 6 November.

Security sources cited by Voice of Lebanon announced that negotiations have begun for the surrender of the Al-Baddawi camp and Tripoli to the combined Syrian-dissident forces. Though admitting that his forces had withdrawn from Nahr al-Barid, according to AFP, 'Arafat denied that any cease-fire talks were under way. In an interview with Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf revealed that mediation efforts with the dissidents broke down when the dissidents released a statement rejecting everything that had been proposed since the beginning of the mediation.

Reiterating the 'Arafat loyalists' claim that Syria is behind the recent assaults, Baghdad Voice of PLO charged that Damascus radio and "various" Syrian media had "admitted" the "Syrian forces' direct involvement" in the northern Lebanon fighting. 'Arafat also reinforced earlier statements in an interview with AFP when he asserted that the Syrians want to "eliminate" him because no one but the Palestinian people can "control" him. Damascus radio called 'Arafat's assertions of Syrian involvement "allegations and lies" designed to "justify his defeats and failure," while official dissident spokesman Mahmud al-Labadi, at a news conference in Damascus reported by Damascus radio, again "denied that any Syrian or Libyan forces participated" in the fighting.

Fatah Central Committee Meeting — The Fatah Central Committee, currently meeting in Tunis, decided to "dismiss" 10 dissident leaders including Nimr Salih and Sa'id Musa from the Fatah movement, according to an official statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO. In another statement, broadcast by San'a' Voice of Palestine, the committee declared that it holds Syria and Libya "fully responsible" for the events in northern Lebanon and called for an urgent meeting of Arab foreign ministers to prepare for a summit conference to "discuss and stop" the Syrian and Libyan regimes' "continuing plot" against the PLO. The Central Committee also called on Kuwait to take a "firm and resolute stand" at the coming GCC summit, which is to convene in Doha on 7 November, to help stop the "aggression" against Palestinians in northern Lebanon, Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan told KUNA. Meanwhile, the committee addressed an "urgent and important" message to the Soviet leadership, the agency added.

Reaction to Fighting — The leaders of the DFLP, the PFLP, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party issued a joint statement calling for an end to the fighting and condemning the attacks on 'Arafat's forces in Lebanon, AFP reported. Similarly, the PFLP-DFLP joint command issued a statement expressing its "denunciation" of the fighting and holding "the attackers" responsible, according to Aden radio. Members of the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC residing in Jordan also called for an immediate halt to "all military operations" in northern Lebanon, Amman television announced.

Jordan's King Husayn warned that "Syria will suffer the consequences" of its "continued involvement in Lebanon, the Gulf war, and Palestinian affairs." Husayn told the Kuwaiti daily *ARAB TIMES*, cited by KUNA, that "just as Lebanon has been partitioned, so Syria might find itself similarly divided" and reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to the Palestinian cause under 'Arafat, adding, however, that "Jordan will not be a substitute homeland for the Palestinians." Saudi Arabia's Council of Ministers expressed "regret, denunciation, and condemnation" of the Palestinian internecine fighting and stressed the "legitimacy of the PLO under its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat," the Saudi information minister told Riyadh radio. Meanwhile, President Husni Mubarak said Egypt is attempting to give 'Arafat the "utmost support," although a "responsible Egyptian source" said Egypt's support does not in any way mean intervening militarily, MENA reported. President Habib Bourguiba reiterated Tunisia's "complete solidarity" with the Palestinian people, according to Tunis radio.

Contacts on Situation — DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah journeyed to Algiers for talks on the issue, APS disclosed, as Salah Khalaf departed after a lengthy visit to attend the Fatah Central Committee session. Habib Bourguiba received Khalaf, Faruq Qaddumi, and Mahmud 'Abbas, Tunis radio said, while King Husayn received Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan, according to Amman television.

Meanwhile, King Husayn telephoned Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Saudi King Fahd to discuss the fighting in northern Lebanon, Amman television said. Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah held telephone conversations with King Fahd and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, KUNA stated, while YAR Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr held talks with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and then returned to San'a' with a message from President al-Asad to the YAR president, San'a' radio and SANA reported.

Lebanon

Aftermath of Tyre Attack — The Middle East peoples should realize that if Israel is provoked, "the hand extended in peace will turn into an iron fist that will strike at terrorism to the bitter end," Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir warned at an election rally in Qiryat Shemona reported by Jerusalem radio. Defense Minister Moshe Arens likewise stressed on Jerusalem radio that Israel will strike back against those responsible for the Tyre bomb attack.

The Israelis reopened the Al-Awwali River bridges to traffic, IDF Radio reported. A commission of inquiry to look into the bombing incident was also named, Jerusalem radio reported. Religious and political leaders in southern Lebanon called for a general strike on 8 November to protest the closure of the bridges, Voice of Lebanon radio noted. In another development, gunmen from the Lebanese National Resistance assassinated the local leader of the Israeli-backed National Guard in An-Nabatiyah, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio reported on 7 November. The previous evening, gunmen fired at Israeli positions in Sidon and near the Az-Zahrani River, according to Radio Free Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche announced in Geneva that Israel has information "attesting to" Syria's responsibility for the Tyre and Beirut suicide bomb attacks. He said that Israel made it clear to Syria that it will "react to any act of aggression," Jerusalem radio reported. The IDF spokesman earlier denied reports that Israeli aircraft struck Syrian targets, according to Jerusalem radio. A Syrian military spokesman cited by Damascus radio likewise said no Syrian positions were hit. Nevertheless, Voice of Lebanon radio asserted that 3 Syrian officers were among the 60 people killed in the raids and that 18 Syrian tanks were destroyed. However, the primary target of the raids was a position of the PFLP-General Command, whose deputy leader was killed, the radio said.

Geneva Talks — The National Dialogue Conference will resume in Geneva on 14 November, according to an official conference statement broadcast by Beirut radio at the end of the first round of talks. Confirming conference approval of a formula for Lebanon's "identity" and its decision to entrust President Amin al-Jumayyil with the task of securing Israel's withdrawal through "international measures and contacts," the statement said the conferees also agreed to consolidate the Security Arrangements Committee and to submit proposals for internal reforms to the secretariat prior to discussion in the forthcoming session.

Commenting on the outcome of the dialogue thus far, former President Camille Sham'un told Radio Monte Carlo that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement will remain "frozen" until talks with the United States secure the removal of "all that impinges" on Lebanon's sovereignty.

Beirut Security Situation — The Lebanese Army engaged in further clashes with gunmen near Beirut on 5 November, according to Beirut radio reports. An explosion outside a Lebanese television building killed three people that day and the Lebanese Army defused a bomb in a jeep parked outside the Iranian Embassy on 7 November, the Voice of Lebanon reported.

Syria

Khaddam Talks — Foreign Minister Khaddam will visit the USSR soon at the invitation of the Soviet Government, Damascus radio and TASS reported. Khaddam held talks in Damascus with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti over the weekend, the radio also noted.

Golan Heights — Syrian troops on the Golan Heights were recently seen clearing minefields and Soviet military advisers were also spotted in the area, *MA'ARIV* reported citing eyewitness accounts by UNDOF observers.

Iran-Iraq War

Reporting on continuing action in the northern sector, Iranian military communiques broadcast by Tehran radio announced that 10 strategic heights were captured, 2 Iraqi aircraft downed, and 2,000 Iraqi soldiers killed during a new attack launched by Iranian forces to the west and northwest of Panjwin on 3-4 November. Subsequent communiques reported that 1,000 more Iraqis had been killed, including several commanders, and another Iraqi aircraft downed while Iranian forces began operations to consolidate their gains. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio confirmed the new attack, but reported that Iraqi units had halted it and inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian forces. A subsequent communique reported that Iraqi forces in the northern sector launched a counterattack 4-5 November which overran Iranian positions and resulted in a "large number" of Iranian dead, wounded, and captured. Also reporting this assault, Tehran radio said that the Iraqi counterattack south of Panjwin was "smashed" by Iranian forces, leaving 540 Iraqi dead. Meanwhile, a military communique released by Tehran radio on 6 November reported "repeated" Iraqi operations and counteroffensives west of Panjwin on 5 and 6 November, which Iranian forces repelled, while IRNA reported that over 400 Iraqis were killed.

In a separate report, KUNA cited a Swiss publication as stating that Austria delivered 100-200 howitzers to Iraq via Jordan. An Italian firm is supplying Iraq with ammunition for the guns.

Inter-Arab Affairs

In connection with the desire of "a number" of Arab countries to postpone the summit conference scheduled to be held in Riyadh in November, Saudi Arabia has asked Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi to hold contacts on a foreign ministers meeting at the Arab League headquarters to discuss "a suitable date" for the summit, according to a statement by the Saudi information minister cited by Riyadh radio. Tripoli radio reported that Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has asked King Fahd to postpone the call for the summit until "the Arab situation becomes more clear." In related developments, Damascus radio reported Klibi discussing preparations for the summit with President al-Asad after which he journeyed to Amman to meet with King Husayn on the same topic, Amman radio stated. From Amman, Klibi went to Baghdad to discuss the topic with Saddam Husayn, according to Baghdad radio, and then to Riyadh to meet with King Fahd, Riyadh radio reported.

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Further Materials on Inter-Palestinian Dispute

'Arafat Blames Syria

NC041600 Paris AFP in English 1550 GMT 4 Nov 83

[By Samy Ketz]

[Text] Al-Baddawi, Lebanon, Nov 4 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir 'Arafat today accused Syria of wanting his death so as to gain control of the Palestinian movement. In an interview with AFP, Mr. 'Arafat ignored the shellfire which shook the building around him as he said: "The Syrians want to eliminate me because they know that no one, except my own people, can control me."

"What is happening now is the result of a deal between the Syrians and the Americans. The Syrians guaranteed they could liquidate the PLO and the Palestinians in Lebanon," he said. Syria's dream, he went on, was always to control the PLO. "Now they want a new PLO that they can use like a pawn on a chess board."

Seated at a table on the ground floor of a building in the Palestinian camp at Al-Baddawi, north of Tripoli, Mr 'Arafat said the Syrians wanted to occupy both Al-Baddawi and the Nahr al-Barid camp and were threatening a massacre such as that at the Sabra and Shatila camps last year. When a shell crashed a dozen meters from the building, he urged reporters present to leave for their own safety, but he continued to answer questions despite sometimes deafening artillery fire. Several armed bodygards and three drivers waited outside.

"For the past 48 hours, we have been bombarded by Syrian and Libyan tanks and artillery as well as the Syrian-controlled Palestine Liberation Army and Palestinians who are puppets of Arab regimes," he said. "The Syrians have thrown about 150 tanks into the battle and have turned 150 to 170 artillery pieces against camps. There is currently a violent Libyan attack under way, led by armored vehicles and tanks, against the Nahr al-Barid camp. In addition, the camp is under fire from Syrian territory," he added.

The interview was conducted in two phases, beginning at Mr. 'Arafat's headquarters this morning in Tripoli, following a meeting with his top aides. As the PLO chief and his cohort of bodyguards made their way to their cars, Mr. 'Arafat said fighting had increased dramatically today. Asked whether he personally was a target, he said: "To kill me or kill my people, what is the difference." He stressed he would stay in northern Lebanon: "My duty is to remain here with my people, with our forces, and to face the threats and dangers they face."

He said he had no contact at the moment with the Syrian authorities.

His advisor, Khalid al-Hasan, had just met King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who had asked Syrian president Hafiz al-Asad to stop the fighting. "But you can see for yourself that the battles continue," he said.

According to Mr. 'Arafat, there are 12,000 Syrians involved in commando action in Jabal Turbul, Fawwar and Calma, east of Al-Baddawi, 900 Libyans with 27 tanks, 1,500 PLO men and 800 to 900 Palestinian dissidents.

4 Nov Military Action

JN041612 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Formations of Zionist enemy planes this afternoon bombed Bhamdun and Al-Mansuriyah, where the Palestinian revolution forces and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces are stationed. Sixteen Israeli planes participated in the attack as a preliminary reaction to the massive explosion that took place this morning at the Zionist military governor's headquarter in Tyre in southern Lebanon.

Despite the Zionist command's attempts to reduce the number of Zionist officers and soldiers who were killed or wounded in this operation, reports leaked by world news agencies said that almost 200 were killed, including the Zionist military governor in Tyre and a number of his aides, who are still under the rubble. Since this morning, the Zionist forces have tightened the siege on the Tyre area in order to isolate it from other Lebanese territory. Zionist war minister Moshe Arens arrived at the scene of the explosion under tight security. He was accompanied by several ranking Zionist officers.

The huge explosion at Tyre coincided with a daring military operation the heroes of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces carried out against a Zionist military patrol near Sidon. Several Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded, and several Zionist vehicles were destroyed.

An Israeli military spokesman admitted the attack and claimed that only four of his soldiers were wounded. He also admitted that one military armored car was destroyed. The Zionist forces lost control and directed random but intensive fire that damaged several commercial buildings and civilian cars in the area.

Spokesman on Clashes

JN041729 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] For the second consecutive day, the Syrian, Libyan, and agent dissident forces are escalating the military situation in northern Lebanon. Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid refugee camps, Tripoli, all of the Palestinian revolution forces' positions, as well as civilian Palestinians and Lebanese were attacked all day today by Syrian and Libyan rocket launchers, heavy artillery, and tanks.

The Palestinian military spokesman said that the revolution forces managed to repulse all of the attacks on the Palestinian refugee camps, despite immense fire that paved the way for the advance of the Syrian, Libyan, and the agent forces. Several tanks and other pieces of equipment used in the attack were destroyed. A group of 33 fighters announced that they joined the Palestinian revolution forces, and they immediately took up their positions to defend the revolution and the masses.

On the political level, the Palestinian revolution's leadership is continuing its active efforts to confront the Syrian-Libyan attack against Palestinian revolution positions and our people's masses in northern Lebanon. Following the cables that brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] sent to Arab and friendly leaders on the results of the Syrian-Libyan escalation of the situation in northern Lebanon, Arab and Palestinian reaction expressed their displeasure at and denunciation of attemtps to strike at the Palestinian legitimate authority and the PLO.

Details of the military and political situation are as follows:
On the military level, fierce battles have raged since dawn this morning on the slopes of Turbul Mountain between Syrian, Libyan, and agent forces on the one hand and the Palestinian revolution forces on the other. Syrian tanks attempted to advance toward the western and southern areas of Turbul Mountain under the cover of heavy artillery and rocket shelling. However, the heroes of the Palestinian revolution forces managed to halt this advance and to seize two tanks. Following that, the Syrian, Libyan, and agent forces carried out concentrated shelling of the Al-Baddawi refugee camp, the Al-Fawwar area, and the city of Tripoli.

At 0930 this morning, the Syrian, Libyan, and agent forces renewed their concentrated shelling from their positions in (Al-Haykalin), Ardah, and (Al-Karmalin) against Al-Baddawi refugee camp, Al-Fawwar, Turbul Mountain, and Tripoli. These forces also used heavy artillery to shell the Al-Baddawi camp from the (?Hamah) triangle.

The shelling of Palestinian refugee camps and Tripoli by the Syrian and Libyan regimes' forces and their agents continued until 1500 today. The shells of the criminals and murderers hit a shelter in the center of Nahr al-Barid refugee camp, martyring or wounding several Lebanese and Palestinians -- primarily children who gathered in the shelters during the barbaricshelling by the Syrian and Libyan forces. In a statement issued by the Palestinian revolution forces' command in Tripoli at 1515 today, it was announced that our forces managed to repulse all of the Syrian and Libyan attacks against the Al-Fawwar area, to inflict large losses on the attackers, and to destroy four tanks.

A group of 30 fighters announced that they joined the Palestinian revolution forces, and they immediately carried out their fighting tasks in defense of the revolution and the masses.

In another statement, our sources in northern Lebanon said that the Syrian forces concentrated their shelling this afternoon on the oil refinery near Tripoli, setting several oil and fuel tanks on fire. This protends serious consequences regarding the citizens' need for electricity and food.

Qaddumi, 'Abbas Assail Syria

JN041621 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 4 Nov(INA) — Faruq Qadumi, head of the PLO Political Department and secretary of the Fatah Central Committee, has described the Iranian regime's position on the Iraqi-Iranian war as intransigent and nonresponsive. Meeting with the members of the general secretariat of the Arab Journalists Association here today, Qaddumi said that Iran's intransigent attitude was coupled with their unreasonable demands. On the other hand, he said that Iraq showed unlimited flexibility to end the war and settle the dispute between the two countries by peaceful means. Qaddumi added that this war, which has been imposed on Iraq, has prevented it from carrying out a number of pan-Arab duties, from participating in Arab tasks, and from helping the Palestinian revolution during the Beirut battles. Qaddumi reviewed the PLO efforts to solve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute through the Islamic mediation committee and the Nonaligned Movement, asserting that the PLO's efforts had met with Iranian intransigence.

On the Syrian regime's attack against the Palestinian revolution's fighters and refugee camps in northern Lebanon, Qaddumi held the Syrian regime responsible for shedding Palestinian blood, saying that the current events constitute a blot in Syria's history and that Syria is responsible for them from the pan-Arab and historical viewpoints. Qaddumi refuted the Syrian regime's claims that it is neutral on the Fatah split and that it does not side with this or that party in the conflict. Qaddumi said: Even if this were true, Syria should not stand neutral and permit the shedding of Palestinian blood on its soil. [as received] Qaddumi also said that half of Fatah's weapons in Syria have been usurped by the Syrian regime and given to the dissidents.

Faruq Qaddumi was followed by Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the Fatah Central Committee, who said that the Fatah split was wished for and supported by the Syrian regime, which also wanted to spill Palestinian blood and liquidate both Fatah and Yasir 'Arafat. Abu Mazin also said that what happened to the Fatah offices in Damascus also happened to the Fatah offices in the Libyan capital, adding that Syrian and Libyan intelligence men chased the PLO office director in Libya into the streets of Tripoli and Banghazi. Abu Mazin said that the PLO director in Libya miraculously escaped when these men occupied the PLO and Fatah offices in Libya.

Habash Call to Al-Asad

JN051555 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash today called on President Hafiz al-Asad and the rest of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front leaders to exert all efforts to halt the destructive fighting currently taking place in northern Lebanon. He also called on all Palestinian leaders who have taken up arms to respond to reason and conscience and to reconsider that destructive method.

Dr Habash also expressed sadness and concern over the criminal internecine fighting which, as he put it, only serves the enemies. He appealed to the Palestinian figters: Reject any orders issued to you to open fire on the sons of your Palestinian people. He called on the Palestinian masses inside and outside the Palestinian land to express their decisive opinion by condemning the internecine fighting.

Khalaf Raps Syrians, Libyans

JN040912 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, has said that the Syrian and Libyan regimes have become the tools of a U.S.-Zionist scheme aimed at liquidating the PLO and establishing an alternative organization working under their orders. At a news conference in Algiers today, Brother Abu Iyad held the Syrian and Libyan regimes responsible for expanding the military situation in northern Lebanon against the Palestinian revolution and against the Palestinian masses in Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi refugee camps. Brother Abu Iyad said that the Syrian and Libyan regimes are currently doing what the former terrorist Zionist war minister Ari'el Sharon failed to achieve.

Brother Abu Iyad affirmed that the Palestinian revolution forces are determined to challenge and resist the liquidatory scheme in Tripoli to the end. He also affirmed that the Palestinian revolution rejects any Arab custodianship and that brother leader Abu 'Ammar will always remain the symbol of the active struggle of our Palestinian people and the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution.

Supports Tyre Operation

JN050722 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Abu Iyad, one of the Fatah leaders, has announced his support for the operation [against Israeli headquarters in Tyre] and has considered it an operation which falls within the framework of the struggle carried out by the Lebanese resistance against Israeli occupation. Abu Iyad said that there is no connection between this operation and the operations carried out against the U.S. and French forces in Beirut.

Rebel Spokesman Cited

JN041948 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus — Mahmud al-Labadi, official spokesman for the revolutionary uprising within Fatah, has reiterated the movement's rejection of internecine fighting among the brothers in arms and of all of Yasir 'Arafat's claims and accusations about fraternal Arab Syria and Libya regarding the raging events in Tripoli. At a news conference he held here at noon today, Al-Labadi denied that any Syrian or Libyan forces participated in the Tripoli events. He explained that 'Arafat's claims on the number of shells that landed in the city are untrue. He stated that yesterday morning 'Arafat's groups began to advance toward the opposing Palestinian positions located in the north and that 'Arafat has tried to create a state of confusion in the Palestinian arena. After that, the Palestinian revolution forces defended themselves and their positions.

The official spokesman for the revolutionary uprising within Fatah asserted that the eruption of the situation in Tripoli is a result of 'Arafat's provocations, because he has been preparing and massing up military and human forces through the Tripoli port. He added that ships flying the Egyptian flag were seen unloading heavy weapons with the aim of further aggravating the military situation in northern Lebanon against all the nationalist forces opposing 'Arafat.

Al-Labadi condemned 'Arafat's repeated attempts to accuse Syria and Libya of participating in the fighting against his loyalists. He stressed that these are attempts to draw attention away from the demands for just reform, as proposed by the revolutionary uprising that embodies the desire of the overwhelming majority of cadres in Fatah and the Palestinian revolution.

Al-Labadi denounced the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes' intervention in Fatah internal affairs. He said: We in Fatah reject any intervention in Palestinian affairs. He reiterated that what is happening within Fatah is merely an internal issue and that the revolutionary uprising will not accept the continued deviation within Fatah and the PLO. He further stressed: We reject and condemn the internecine fighting among brothers in arms.

PFLP-DFLP Denounces 'Attackers'

GF041924 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] An official spokesman for the joint command of the PFLP and the DFLP stated the following: The joint command has been following the developments in the north with utmost concern, particularly the extensive shelling of Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid camps, which has resulted in major destruction of both camps and in the shedding the blood of our people's sons. As it stresses the necessity to immediately stop the shelling of towns and ending the fighting, the joint command expresses its denunciation of this serious escalation and holds the attackers responsible for what is going on, since this escalation of fighting is self-destructive and amounts to aiding the enemies of our people and revolution.

Khalid al-Hasan Statement

LD051111 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0852 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 5 Nov (KUNA) — Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, had declared that "the situation in northern Lebanon has exploded faster than we expected." He described the talks he had with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad last week as having been directed "toward the strengthening of bridges that were about to collapse."

In an exclusive statement to KUNA following his return from a visit to Riyadh where he met with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Khalid al-Hasan said, "I do not deny that the result of my 6-hour meeting with President al-Asad was not as I would have liked it to be. But it did leave the door open there by giving hope for reaching the desired result."

"We cannot deny that relations between Fatah and Syria are not normal and the continuation of this state of affairs is not normal either, irrespective of the clique of dissenters and those siding with them," he said; "hence our efforts to move to restore normal relations with Syria out of our belief that such a matter should be a common objective, if not because of principled stances and objectives then at least because of the dictates of the common danger that threatens us all, be it the Zionist threat or the objectives of the American policy within the framework of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Khalid al-Hasan added: "In view of all this, it is essential that we all overlook the past mistakes, which now belong to history;it is for future generations to evaluate and judge them. As for the present, the common struggle should prevail."

"Fatah has left no stone unturned in its efforts to restore normal relations with sister Syria or with any other Arab country," he said adding, "the last of such efforts was with the Saudi Kingdom following the success of the Saudi monarch in Lebanon. If it was possible to bring the Lebanese factions around one table of dialogue, despite the various conflicting interferences, then all the criteria of the public interest demand a Palestinian-Syrian dialogue. King Fahd succeeded in his contacts with his Brother President al-Asad in bringing about a meeting which I had the honor of attending as a representative of the Fatah movement." Khalid al-Hasan added "the meeting was extremely frank and covered numerous issues. Despite the frankness that prevailed, it was a meeting characterized by a spirit of dialogue intended to prop up bridges which were about to collapse. I do not deny that the result was not as I would have liked it to be, but it did leave the door open thereby leaving room for hope that it might be possible to achieve the desired results in the future."

Khalid al-Hasan pointed out two basic aspects of the popular reactions in the Palestinian, Syrian, and Arab arenas. He said "as much as there was pain in the hearts of all over what was going on in the Al-Biqa' and in the streets of Damascus and what was likely to take place in Tripoli at the time, the announcement about the visit and the meeting has aroused hopes equal to the pain and the masses gave these hopes greater possibilities than time could deliver. What I mean is that the masses hoped for the restoration of relations between Syria and Fatah the next day."

"What is important here are the true feelings of the masses which reject any differences over confrontation with the Zionist enemy and the American policy as represented by the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the growing difficulties and expansion that might ensue from it," Khalid al-Hasan said.

"As agreed," Al-Hasan said, "President al-Asad sent an envoy to convey to the dissenters his views about dealing with the situation. Unfortunately, the dissenters refused to accept the third and fourth memoranda sent to them thereby closing the door on any dialogue unless such dialogue met with their way of thinking, which was based on the statements of their theoretician Ilyas Shufani that they have to seize the revolutionary opportunity for the creation of the revolutionary vanguard party for the liberation of Palestine and the Arab nation." Al-Hasan said that "at this time, the dissenters and their allies are holding meetings under the chairmanship of Tariq al-Khadra to discuss plans for attacking the Fatah forces in Tripoli." "Thus the signs of a new catastrophe and a new massacre begin to loom over the horizon with no other objective than the destruction of the Fatah movement and the PLO. Such an objective can only serve the Zionist enemy and American policy," he said.

Khalid al-Hasan said, "In view of this, in view of the hopes the masses have been entertaining, and in view of the fact that the Fatah Central Committee was scheduled to meet in accordance with the decision taken at the Fatah meeting in Kuwait, I had to visit King Fahd to put him in the picture on the ground that my meeting with President al-Asad was the result of his efforts, and also to consult him over the need to intensify the good offices in regard to the relations between Syria and Fatah and to check the blood letting in Tripoli." Khalid al-Hasan said that he "placed King Fahd in the picture, but the situation exploded faster than expected and the efforts were diverted to putting an end to a new Palestinian massacre. It does not matter so much who is involved in the massacre as does the fact that it should not have taken place with its ugly effect on the morale of our people and nation and leading to the lionization of our enemies."

Khalil al-Hasan added: "Meanwhile, Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] was in Algiers and other brothers were elsewhere. All did what was required by the situation — efforts and contacts with the heads of states in those countries, particularly President Chadli Bendjedid; the amir of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad; and President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad." He added, "We hope the tragedy will stop at the limits it already has reached. The sacrifices the Palestinian people have offered must not be used for massacres."

Al-Hasan appealed to Hafiz al-Asad to work toward ending the fratricide now raging in northern Lebanon, saying "I must here address myself to His Excellency President al-Asad in his capacity as the only one capable of putting an end to the fighting, to help stop it and thereby put an end to this tragedy, which has no justification. Neutrality in regard to differences of opinion should not prevent — indeed should dictate — intervention to stop the fratricide. Whatever their nationalities, the participants in the fighting are all Arabs and all belong to the Arab nation and face the same ferocious Zionist enemy." "Perhaps," he said, "contacts among responsible Arab officials will bear fruits so that it will be possible to restore the climate of struggle which is dictated by the confrontation with the Zionist enemy, particularly as relations with Syria are governed not only by common principles, objectives, and destiny, but also by political geography and the negative and positive aspects of the conflict with the Zionist enemy."

Hawatimah: End Bombardments

LD061006 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Algiers, 6 Nov (APS) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has called for "an immediate halt to the bloody aggressive operations and the disengagement of the forces assembled around Tripoli at Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi and transforming them into the frontline against the Zionist occupation." It stressed that "the game of slaughtering the Palestinians by Palestinians must stop immediately. All Palestinian and Arab guns must go to the battlefield against the Zionist occupation and American forces." This came in a statement by DFLP Secretary general Mr Nayif Hawatimah, commenting on the continuation of the bombing and destruction of the Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps in northern Lebanon for the third consecutive day.

Mr Hawatimah, who is currently visiting Algeria, pointed out that the Palestinian people completely condemn the shedding of the blood of the revolution and the Palestinian camps and reject any justification of these bloody actions, which only serve, he said, the enemies of our people and the revolution and the enemies of the PLO and our Arab nation.

'Arafat on U.S. 'Deal'

JN042029 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Telephone interview given by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre of Abu 'Ammar, in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, on 4 November to Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Antoine Abu Samra and broadcast in the weekly "It happened Tomorrow" program — live or recorded]

[Text] [Abu Samra] Events are accelerating in a strange way in the Lebanese territories. The Geneva dialogue conference has been suspended until 14 November. Meanwhile, Tripoli, the capital city of the north, and its suburbs have been witnessing a real hell for several days. Today the situation in southern Lebanon exploded. This was followed by another explosion in the mountain, when Israeli warplanes strafed several areas. Is there a link between all these events in the Lebanese arena?

['Arafat] Of course, nothing comes from a vacuum, Antoine. We must clearly understand this issue. I regret to say that the U.S. deal [safqah] still insists on destroying the Palestinian revolution as soon as possible. The bill must be paid quickly by terminating the PLO and independent Palestinian decisionmaking. It seems that the U.S. pressure is intended to accelerate the implementation of this operation. It was supposed that the Geneva conference would coincide with the termination of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO. This is regarding the situation in Tripoli.

As for southern Lebanon, what happened is a part of the volcano. You remember, Antoine, that following my departure from Beirut I said that the region is going to witness a stormy volcano. I said that Lebanese and Palestinian blood cannot be wasted. As you can see, there is a volcano in Lebanon, in the Palestinian arena, and inside Israel beginning with Begin's resignation, the choking economic crisis, the problem inside the government, the successful war of attrition the Palestinians and Lebanese launched against the Israeli occupation in Lebanon. In addition, part of the volcano is what is now happening in Tripoli. It is an extention of the plan to expel all of the Palestinian forces from Al-Biqa'. It was agreed that we would leave Al-Biqa' for the north in order to prevent bloodshed and to avoid a confrontation with our Syrian brothers. It was also agreed that we would leave our positions in Ba'labakk and Al-Jibab al-Humr for the same reasons. Unfortunately, we see that the others are still coming after us.

[Abu Samra] Abu 'Ammar, today the Israeli Air Force strafed Sawfar and Bhamdun in retaliation for the Tyre operation. The Israelis said that the targets they raided belong to Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Ahmad Jibril's groups. Don't you think that the strafing of...

['Arafat, interrupting] He knows, and the Lebanese government knows ...

[Abu Samra, interrupting] Excuse me, Abu 'Ammar ...

[Abu 'Ammar, interrupting] And all of our brothers in the mountain know that there are no Palestinians left in the mountain. Walid Junblatt himself admitted that. There might be an office belonging to this faction here or another office in the rear there. We do not have forces there, but operations in the rear; no more no less. [sentence as heard]

[Abu Samra] But, why does Israel announce that it is strafing targets belonging to the Ahmad Jibril and Abu Musa groups?

['Arafat] In order to absorb the internal rancor in Israel and to give the impression that Israel has mighty hands that can react immediately after the operation. This shows the Israeli helplessness in front of the big event that happened against its existence and forces in southern Lebanon.

[Abu Samra] Don't you fear that this will affect the PLO's position in Tripoli, with you at its head — specifically, by creating the impression that the Abu Musa and Ahmad Jibril groups are the ones who are fighting and are being subejcted to Israel's blows?

['Arafat] Who told you that we do not have offices in the mountain? [Words indistinct] our offices in the mountain.

[Abu Samra] Do you have offices in the mountain as well?

['Arafat] for a long time. We have some offices left from long ago.

[Abu Samra] Were these offices hit today?

['Arafat] Yes, they were hit.

[Abu Samra] They were hit by the Israeli Air Force?

['Arafat] When we say offices, we mean simple traces in the rear. The Syrian brothers insisted on our evacuation from Al-Biqa' or to let them force me to withdraw without leaving anyone behind in the mountain. This was what happened with everyone there. What is happening to me now is also happening to everyone else. The Lebanese officials, including the National Salvation Front's officials, say that there are no Palestinians left in the mountain. Vestiges of offices, no more and no less, are still there. Even if there is an Israeli attack there, does this mean that Syria is settling its accounts with us in the north?

[Abu Samra] I leave this for you, Abu 'Ammar, so you can assess the situation for us.

['Arafat] I have been under Syrian-Israeli siege here in the north for several months now. I have the right to ask about the bestial battles that have been raging for the past 48 hours and the shelling of our camps in the north and how they are being burned with napalm. Is this a new Karbalaa' that is taking place in northern Lebanon against the two camps left there? These two camps were not destroyed during the Lebanese civil war and, therefore, they must be left so no more camps would be left undestroyed. [sentence as heard]

[Abu Samra] What is the military situation now?

['Arafat] Today, for example, 30 children living in an asylum were killed by a direct shell hit at Nahr al-Barid. Their bodies are still there. This is in addition to scores of men and women killed or wounded both in the two camps and inside the city of Tripoli. I want to ask a question: Why was the refinery hit again today? Yesterday the oil storage tanks were hit, and the refinery was hit today.

[Abu Samra] Is the refinery being hit to prevent you from using fuel?

['Arafat] Do I have thousands of ... it was hit to humiliate the city. [sentence as heard] This is one of the main economic centers that remained for the town to live on. This means that every economic center must be hit in this city, which has given so much for Palestine, Syria, and the nationalist forces both inside and outside Lebanon. I have recordings. They told them to strike deep [word indistinct] not the storage tanks yesterday but the refinery installations as well. He told him if he did not carry out the orders, kill him. What I say is: How can this happen when Tripoli has suffered so much in supporting Palestinian, Syrian, and Arab sides?

[Abu Samra] There are several accusations leveled against you. It is said that you want to transform Tripoli in to a second West Beirut and northern Lebanon into a second southern Lebanon. How do you answer your enemies' accusations?

['Arafat] There is a proverb I like to repeat: When they did not find anything to say against a rose, they said it had red cheeks. In the south, they told us: Let us resettle the Palestinians. Then we bore the brunt of there settlement lie. We and the Lebanese people suffered. We cannot notice these trivial rumors such as the alternative homeland, the resettlement, and the Palestinian canton in northern Lebanon that some papers have reported. When I was in Tunis, they said: Abu 'Ammar has fled and is spending his vacation on the Tunisian beaches. When I come here, they asked me: Why have you come? When a rumor spread that I left Tripoli, they said, He has fled aboard on one of the U.S. ships. I am really confused. Do not break the bread and do not eat broken pieces, but eat as much as you can. This is a plot, Antoine, a big plot.

[Abu Samra] There are many accusations, and I will be the devil's advocate now.

['Arafat] I do not want you to be a devil's advocate. Do you fight with both the sword of the plotters and the swords of Tripoli, the massacres against the Palestinians, or the new Tal az-Za'tar massacre, or even the new Sabra and Shatilla massacres in the north? Do you mean this, Antoine, when you say that you will be the devil's advocate?

[Abu Samra] I want to be very frank. It was said at the beginning that one of the main causes of the events in Lebanon is the armed Palestinain presence in Lebanon. Then events multiplied, even after the withdrawal of the armed Palestinians, when other kinds of occupations came. In your opinion, how can the Palestinian and the Lebanese problems be solved? Do you support the withdrawal of all the present armed groups and forces in Lebanon for the Lebanese problem to be solved?

['Arafat] I continue to stick to what I and President Amin al-Jumayyil agreed on in New Delhi.

[Abu Samra] Then you support the withdrawal of all armed forces from Lebanon, includign the Palestinian forces.

['Arafat] Do not explain, Brother Antoine; I will explain. I continue to stick to what I and President Amin al-Jumayyil agreed on in New Delhi. What is more important is how the Palestinians will live. Their rights in this country as refugees [words indistinct] the Palestinians to this country within a great tragedy. When I say that I am against the plot against the Lebanese people and country, I mean that I see in it what happened to my country, Palestine. There was a partition. Now there is an attempt to divide Leabnon on a sectarian basis. This Israeli-U.S. plot in which some Arab sides are involved — I tell my Arab nation that it should be alert for this plot. What takes place in Lebanon may reflect on Arab antion. This sectarian division that the United States is supporting under various names, such as cantons and other slogans — all this will reflect on the Arab antion in horrible manner.

[Abu Samra] My last question in our program "It Happened Tomorrow" concerns the Tripoli situation, which we hear is infernal. Is there a political solution, or will the solution made by the rifle?

['Arafat] As you are aware, I have appealed to President al-Asad, and I again appeal to him, to stop this massacre against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. I know that nobody moves withotu an order from him. I know as well as he does that nobody moves without a decision from him. All Syrians know this. I appeal to him in the name of the Arab nation's sacred principles, in the name of this innocent blood. It is enough for the Palestinians to have been massacred in Sabra and Shatila, and at Tal az-Za'tar. They have had enough at the hands of both their enemies and theri brothers. I appeal to the entire Arab nation and to our friends in the world to move and stop these new massacres against the Palestinian people.

I would like to tell you something: We have to fight, we have no alternative. The heroes, as you see, are steadfast. Today, the Syrians used all kinds of guns in the North in Amyun, Al-Kurah, east Zgharta, 'Akkar, (Al-Haykaliyah), (Karmaliyah), (Qasr ad-Duwayhi), and the Homs triangle. Heavy, long-range 130-mm caliber artillery was fired from the Homs triangle. Despite all of this, we will continue to fight to defend our poor people who are exposed to this plot and to defend the PLO and our independent decisionmaking. This is our fate, and we cannot escape our fate. I say this to my heroic people inside the occupied territories. I will fight in defense of their decision and dignity so that they may not become slaves in this region. Together, and side by side, until victory, God willing.

[Abu Samra] Thank you, Abu 'Ammar.

5 Nov Military Action

JN051741 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Our hero fighters, who are defending the revolution and its independent decisionmaking, have managed to repel all the bestial and malicious attacks on Nahr al-Barid camp by the Syrian and Libyan forces. These attacks were launched under the cover of intensive rocket and artillery shelling. Our heroes repelled a Syrian-Libyan attempt, backed by the agents and dissidents, to advance towards 'Alma-Al-Fawwar. They were subjected to very intensive Syrian artillery and rocket attack.

Some 60 fighters from the force that was prepared to attack our forces' positions joined the Palestinian revolution forces today. For the third consecutive day, the Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents escalated their intensive rocket and artillery shelling on Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps and the area of Jabal Turbul. The Syrian and Libyan rockets and shells were fired from the areas of Al-Kurah, Amyun, east of Zgharta, 'Akkar, and the Homs triangle. Meanwhile, an attempt to advance on the Markabta axis is taking place. Our forces are dealing with this attempt, using all types of weapons. The sources of fire near the Syrian observation post have been silenced.

Intensive rocket shelling continued today on Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. Heavy material losses and casulties were inflicted on the civilians. All world news agencies reports confirm that the Syrian and Libyan regimes' forces are tightening the noose on the northern area. After shelling the gasoline refinery near Tripoli and burning the oil storage tanks that provide the city and the adjacent area with their oil needs, these forces shelled the water storage tanks in Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. This action increases the suffering of the Palestinians and the Lebanese, particularly since this criminal shelling has also been aimed at the power plants. This will freeze the work of the hospitals and other vital utilities.

Our sources in northern Lebanon said that the Syrians, the Libyans, and the agents of their intelligence organs used all types of weapons in the continued shelling aimed against the civilians in Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid, and Tripoli.

Red Crescent Appeal

JN051915 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The Palestinian Red Crescent Society in northern Tripoli has issued the following statement: The Syrian-Libyan shelling of our Palestinian people's camps and Lebanese villages in northern Lebanon as well as the city of Tripoli has left behind scores of martyrs and hundreds of wounded, including men, women, and children. It has become impossible to present the necessary first aid to the wounded, particularly the children, because of the loss of blood and plasma and the shortage of first aid and surgical equipment. Furthermore, the hospitals in the area are no longer capable of containing the great number of wounded as a result of the Syrian shelling.

The Palestinian Red Crescent Society in the north appeals to all health and international institutions to offer urgent aid and volunteers — including doctors, specialists, technicians, and medical equipment —to rescue the wounded. We badly need blood and plasma as well as other medicines used for treating the wounded.

PLO, PNC Members' Statement

JN052043 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The members of the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC residing in Jordan have called for an immediate halt to all military operations in northern Lebanon in order to preserve the Palestinian blood and protect the lives of thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese, who have lost scores of victims as result of aggression against the Palestinian camps. In a statement issued today, they condemned the Syrian and Libayn regimes' bloody aggression against the Palestinian revolution's forces and appealed to all the masses both inside and outside the occupied homeland to raise their voices loudy against the current hideous massacre in order to protect the PLO's unity and indepenedence.

The statement also appealed to all national forces in both the Arab and Islamic arenas as well as in the world in general to exert their maximum effort to stop those bloody events immediately and to preserve the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Al-'Asifah Command Statement

JN060604 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, Lebanon — The general command of the Palestine National Liberation Movement-Fatah-Al-'Asifah forces has announced that since yesterday morning, Saturday, its forces have been confronting pro-'Arafat forces' attacks in the Tripoli area. In a statement issued yesterday, the Al-'Asifah forces general command added that pro-'Arafat forces opened artillery fire at the Fatah uprising forces stationed on the slopes of (?Al-Hirmil) mountains, and that as a result of repeated provocations, the uprising forces were forced to answer the fire. The statement said that the uprising forces were able to isolate the Nahr al-Barid camp, where elements from the Fatah organization inside the camp joined the uprising. Elements of 'Arafat's forces also joined the uprising. Others fled toward Tripoli.

The statement also said that in the eastern sector Al-'Asifah forces were capable of imposing full control over the Al-Fawwar area, thus establishing contact with the Al-Baddawi camp. The statement pointed out that the 'Arafat gangs' morale was very low and that some of them refused 'Arafat's orders to fire at their comrades in arms.

The Al-'Asifah general command pledged to the Palestinian people that it will be true to their cause and principles and will not be the one to start any sort of combat operations.

'Arafat: Nahr al-Barid Captured

NC060926 Paris AFP in English 0927 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, Northern Lebanon, Nov 6 (AFP) — The Palestinian refugee camp of Nahr al-Barid here fell today to opponents of Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasir 'Arafat, Mr 'Arafat told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. Dissidents in Mr 'Arafat's Fatah movement, backed according to the loyalists by Syrian troops, began their assault on Mr 'Arafat's last stronghold here last Thursday. "Our troops evacuated the camp to save civilian lives," Mr 'Arafat said.

But the Palestinian camp at Al-Baddawi further south was holding out well against the "Syrian and Libyan assailants and their Palestinian allies". Mr 'Arafat confirmed that the Fawwar area overlooking the camp was still held by loyalists, who were replying to attacks.

Move to Tripoli Reported

JN061123 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Newspaper correspondents In Tripoli, northern Lebanon, say that 'Arafat has established a new command post in one of Tripli's populated quarters in addition to his headquarters in Al-Baddawi camp.

A 1-hour clash occurred in the Al-Qubbah quarter of Tripoli between Syrian soldiers and Lebanese militias belonging to the Islamic Unification Movement, which supports 'Arafat. According to reports from the area, water and electric supplies were cut off following the clashes between the Fatah loyalists and dissidents. The city is suffering a shortage of food and medical supplies. Dozens of Tripoli citizens are trying to escape to Beirut or Cyprus by sea via the Tripoli port.

Camp's Surrender Denied

LD061326 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1224 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait 6 Nov (KUNA) — The chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, explained that Nahr al-Barid camp is still standing steadfastly in spite of the siege imposed by the rebel forces. He said that the siege of the camp, which is 15 kilometers from Tripoli, does not mean its fall or surrender, in spite of the intensity of the fire it has faced over the past 4 days. He added in a telephone conversation with KUNA: "A new military method has begun to be applied to improve the defensive positions, only because of the emensity of the attack as it includes a military division with a brigade, and they added another brigade which arrived at 4 a.m., so they now have a division and two brigades supported by 150 to 170 heavy guns in addition to the rocket launchers". Mr 'Arafat said: "These guns and rocket launchers are still shelling us in a way similar to what we saw in Beirut. Unfortunately, this time we have to say that the shells are Syrian, the artillery is Syrian, and the rockets are Syrian." He added: "I was hoping to see these artillery and rockets, when I was besieged in Beirut, firing at the Israelis, but they are now firing at me in the north".

Mr 'Arafat wondered: "I do not know if Nahr al-Barid, Al-Badawi, or Tripoli have become Israeli cities or settlements. I would like to direct this question to our Arab nation: Where does it stand on all this? Nevertheless, I say: Thou art only held responsible for thyself — and rouse the believers. [Koranic quotation]

'Arafat added: "Besides the Syrian military force, there is another Libyan force of 900 soldiers backed by 30 tanks, 40 armored vehicles, launchers, and artillery in addition to the Hittin Brigade of the Palestine Liberation Army using 30 armored vehicles and weapons which it does not own — because I know this army. There are also forces from the PFLP-General Command, As-Sa'iqah, and the Popular Struggle [Front] backing the dissident forces forming about five battalions, that is, less than a brigade."

'Arafat stressed: "Let it be known and heard by all that we will not reliquish the trust placed on our shoulders by our people, and if they are looking for puppets to manipulate in the name of the Palestinian people, they will definitely not find them in Tripoli; they can find them in Damascus. We have made the decision to bow only to Almighty God and the youngest child in our Arab nation."

He pointed out that the leaderships of the popular and the democratic fronts are banned from entering Lebanon to try to stop the fighting taking place. He recalled that what is happening is part of an American deal to destroy the PLO and finnish off the cause of the Palestinian people.

Palestinian unified information official Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahim stressed that the Nahr al-Barid camp has not fallen to the attacking forces backed by two tank brigades. He said: "What they actually have been able to do is cut off the road between the Al-Badawi and Nahr al-Barid camps." Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahim, who was talking with KUNA from Tripoli, northern Lebanon, explained that "the Nahr al-Barid camp from a military point of view is considered to have fallen, but this does not mean that they have been able to take control of it." He added that the artillery forces from the two camps, loyal to 'Arafat, followed new military tactics with regard to Nahr al-Barid to neutralize the Syrian weapons, that is, "to neutralize the artillery corps, rocket corps, and tanks." He said: "What is important is to lift the shelling of the camps, for we laid down a new military plan to confront the situation because they are worse than Sharon." The Palestinian official pointed out in this respect that 42 people have been killed, including 28 children in one shelter as a result of the intense shelling.

Replying a question about a statement made by 'Arafat to AFP in which he said that Nahr al-Barid camp had fallen to the attacking forces, Mr 'Abd ar-Rahim said: "Militarily the camp is considered fallen as they have cut the road between it and Al-Baddawi camp. However, this does not mean it has been controlled." "This matter of control," he added "requires many elements unavailable to the Syrians or their agents." The official responsible for information and 'Arafat spokesman affirmed "that Nahr al-Barid camp will be a graveyard and a trap for the enemies of the Palestinian people."

He recalled that the shelling of Tripoli's refinery, causing fires in a number of the refinery's storage tanks, "was deliberate shelling, and we possess recordings to that effect."

About the proceding of the military operations 'Abd ar-Rahim said that a battle with tanks is currently raging and an attempt to advance from the direction of Al-Fawwar and Dayr 'Ammar to close in on the areas of Turbul and Al-Baddawi. He explained that the attempt to advance on the axis of Dayr 'Ammar was broken. The tanks advancing along the axis of Al-Fawwar are being dealt with. Both axes belong to the Al-Baddawi camp.

'Abd ar-Rahim spoke of the general conditions of the civilians. He said that "comprehensive, deliberate shelling of Al-Baddawi camp has been going on since this morning in an attempt to pressure us, a matter that led to complete flight of civilians from the camp to the nearby town of Tripoli." He added that "if the insurgents believe that Fatah and the Palestinian revolution will be browbeaten or will barter, they are dreaming. The fighting is continuing until the will of the Palestinian people triumphs."

Abd ar-Rahim added: "The demonstrations that took place yesterday in Al-Yarmuk camp, which is close to Damascus, in which eight Palestinians were martyred at the hands of the Syrian intelligence service, is a lesson for the Syrian regime to understand what to expect."

He stressed that the Palestinian revolution has stood fast in the face of the assault and the seige in Beirut for 3 months and will stand fast for 3 years in Tripoli and in the camps.

No Cease-Fire Talks

NC061600 Paris AFP in English 1517 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Al-Baddawi, Northern Lebanon, Nov 6 (AFP) — Embattled Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Leader Yasir 'Arafat today charged Syria with planning to destroy the last camps of refugees loyal to him, and said no ceasefire talks were in progress to end the current inter-Palestinian fighting here. There are no ceasefire negotiations because the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad personally took the decision to carry on "the aggression against the PLO, against the Palestinian people and against its (refugee) camps," Mr. 'Arafat told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE during a lull in the fighting at this camp near the norther Lebanese port city of Tripoli. "There has been a Syrian decision to push on with the operation as far as Tripoli," he added.

Since the loss early today of the nearby Nahr al-Barid refugee camp, Al-Baddawi is now the only position in the whole of Lebanon held by forces loyal to Mr. 'Arafat and his Fatah guerilla organization — formerly the main group in the PLO.

Mr. 'Arafat said he had never planned to wage a big battle at Nahr al-Barid, "because we wanted to keep the number of victims down. Our forces therefore withdrew from the camp at 6.00 A.M. today (0400 GMT)." While stating that "all the Syrian artillery, stationed in northern Lebanon" was shelling his forces, Mr. 'Arafat said the situation was "difficult but not bad." The shelling of the Tripoli oil refinery was an example of Syrian action during the conflict, Mr. 'Arafat said. "To my knowledge," he added, "there is not a single Palestinian in the region (of the refinery), which is controlled by the regular Lebanese Army. "Nevertheless, for four days they have not stopped shelling it with artillery and with 'Stalin's Organ' rockets, and most of the refinery and most of its storage tanks have been destroyed."

When asked what he would do if Al-Baddawi fell to the dissidents, he replied: "I would have no other choice than to go on fighting." He would in any case stay in northern Lebanon, he said, adding: "There is no comparison between the siege of Beirut in the summer of 1982 (and the current siege) because at that time, my departure from the Lebanese capital was the result of an international agreement."

While the fighting between 'Arafat loyalists and dissident forces — reportedly backed by Syrian and Libyan troops — today spread to central Tripoli, unofficial sources said 215 people had been killed and some 300 wounded since it began on Thursday.

Dissident Calls for Conference

NC062314 Paris AFP in English 2006 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Shtawrah, Central Lebanon, Nov 6 (AFP) — Abu Musa, the chief of the Fatah rebels opposed to the leadership of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat, has called for a Fatah general conference and claimed that the rebels had become the majority. In an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here Thursday, Abu Musa said that the rebels in the Fatah, the major component of the PLO, constituted 75 percent of the membership because of mass defections resulting from Mr 'Arafat's abandonment of the armed struggle for a Palestinian state.

The rebel leader was speaking here in central Lebanon on the day that dissident Palestinians launched their attack on loyalist positions at Tripoli, on the northern Lebanese coast. He seemed to be caught off balance by the offensive and out of touch with the latest military developments.

Abu Musa said the Fatah conference should be called in the near future in accordance with the regulation that it be held every three years and Mr 'Arafat would be invited to explain himself. "Anyone who refuses to attend the conference will be excluded from the Fatah because he will have decided to abandon the armed struggle," Abu Musa said. He claimed that Mr 'Arafat had lost his legitimacy in the Fatah, as evidenced by the rebellion. The congress will elect a new political leadership of the Fatah and elaborate the overall political line for the coming peirod, Abu Musa said.

Abu Musa claimed that Mr "Arafat's security and intelligence personnel were his only remaining loyalists. "We are sure that everyone is with us politically", Abu Musa said.

The dissident leader also accused Mr 'Arafat of starting the intra-Palestinian blood-letting by transforming the Fatah political struggle into an armed struggle and trying to distort the situation by accusing the Syrians and Libyans of participating in the fighting.

Fatah Central Committee Holds Meeting in Tunis

GF051316 Doha QNA in Arabic 1017 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 5 Nov (QNA) — The Fatah Central Committee ended its first session at an early hour today after it listened to two important reports from its members Khalid al-Hasan and Salah Khalaf on the results of their contacts in Saudi Arabia and Algeria on the efforts being made to stop the fighting going on in northern Lebanon and also to a comprehensive report from Fatah Central Committee member Faruq Qaddumi on the overall Fatah situation.

A Palestinian source has told the QNA correspondent in Tunis that the two reports contained all the details on Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan's contacts, including the long meeting which he held recently with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Saudi Arabia's view on the ways to tackle the Palestinian and Arab situation and to save the PLO from the grave (?crisis) it is passing through. The report by Salah Khalaf, Fatah's No 2 man, also included minute detail on the moves which Algeria has carried out and its contacts with some Arab parties concerned with the situation in northern Lebanon to stop the attacks on the Al-Barid River and Al-Baddawi camps.

The source said the committee decided to hold its first session last night after all its members arrived in Tunis except for Yasir 'Arafat, Khalil al-Wazir, and Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, who are now in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, to assess the Palestinian revolution's situation and the Arab and international stands on it and also to prepare for the Fatah congress which is scheduled to convene in the Tunisian capital on Monday.

Spokesman on Tripoli Fighting

GF061652 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] A spokesman for Fatah Central Committee has stated the following:

The Fatah Central Committee has followed the developments of the criminal aggression against our people's refugee camps in northern Lebanon and against the steadfast city of Tripoli — aggression which the mercenaries and conspirators are continuing to carry out and which is planned, supervised, and supported by the Syrian regime. The Fatah Central Committee has also followed the courageous stand of our fighters and heroes in northern Lebanon in defense of the revolution and the achievements of our people and their survival under the leadership of the brother leader Abu 'Ammar and his brother Fatah Central Committee members and the cadres and bases of the Palestinian revolution. We record with pride and appreciation the heroic and proud stand of our people in the occupied territories and in the Al-Yarmuk camp in Damascus and wherever our people are gathered in the Arab world, the world at large, and throughout the diaspora.

The Fatah Central Committee holds the Syrian and Libyan regimes fully responsible for what has happened and is happening in northern Lebanon in the way of massacres against our Palestinian and Lebanese people — in continuation of the massacres of Sabra and Shatila and all the massacres perpetrated by the Zionists, the imperialists, and the isolationists. We call on the Arab nation to stand by our people and fighters in these fateful moments. We ask all the forces of liberation and progress and our friends in the world to express their denunciation of the ugly massacres that are being perpetrated against our people and revolution. We also ask them to condemn the continuing plot against the PLO and the attempts to liquidate and destroy it, and consequently destroy our people's national rights. We ask them to denounce the imperialist-U.S. plot, and those who are implementing it in the Arab region, against the PLO and the Palestinian people and their national rights.

The Fatah Central Committee calls on the Arab countries, at these moments of destiny, to adopt clear stands on the aggression and to convene an urgent meeting of foreign ministers as a prelude to an Arab summit conference to discuss and stop the continuing plot by the Syrian and Libyan regimes against the PLO and our steadfast and heroic Palestinian people.

O masses of our people everywhere, you have supported your revolution and organization with courage, heroism, manhood, and spirit of sacrifice. We now urge you and urge all the masses of our Arab nation to support the Palestinian revolution and to declare that we are one people and one revolution and that we stand united to defend our political program against all U.S. plots in the region and against all forms of plans that infringe upon the national rights of our people and the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

In conclusion, the spokesman of the Fatah Central Committee said: A full political statement will be issued on the meetings of the Fatah Central Committee later.

10 Dismissals Announced

JN061753 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1638 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The following is the text of the Fatah Central Committee's decision dismissing the dissidents from the movement:

On the basis of the recommendations of the Fatah Revolutionary Council made on 21 June 1983 in accordance with the Council's commissioning the Central Committee to tackle the issue of the dissidents, the Fatah Central Committee exerted extensive efforts in order to tackle the situation and avert the dangers threatening the Palestinian issue, the Fath movement, the PLO's unity, and independent Palestinian national decisionmaking. However, the dissidents met these efforts with acts of sabotage, the killing of brothers in Damascus and Al-Biqa', and the shedding of Palestinian and Lebanese blood in the Palestinian refugee camps in northern Lebanon. They rejected democratic dialogue and all forms of Palestinian, Arab, and friendly mediation and continued to attempt to seize the movement's institutions with the force of arms and under the protection of the Syrian and Libyan intelligence.

In view of these practices, the Fatah Central Committee has decided to dismiss those mentioned here below from the Fatah movement and to revoke their membership in it. They are: Nimr Salih, Samih Quwayq, Sa'id Musa, Musa al-'Amlah, Ilyas Shufani, Musa 'Awad, Mahdi Bsaysu, Muhammad Badr, Ziyad as-Sughayyar, and Wasif 'Urayqat.

'Urgent' Message to USSR

LD061217 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1144 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 6 Nov (KUNA) — The Fatah Central Committee sent a message, described as urgent and important, to the Soviet leadership this morning. A spokesman for the committee told KUNA that the message is connected "with the grave incidents to which the Palestinian revolution is being exposed in northern Lebanon, which are aimed at destroying it."

Khalaf Forwards Message

JN071027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 7 Nov (INA) — Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] met with a special Soviet envoy here last night. The envoy gave him a message from the Soviet leaders addressed to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of both the PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee. Abu Iyad briefed the Soviet envoy on the serious situation in northern Lebanon, particularly in the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps, as a result of the offensive the Syrian and Libyan regimes and the dissidents are launching against the Palestinian fighters and the inhabitants of the camps.

Abu Iyad asked the Soviet envoy to convey a message from 'Arafat to the Soviet leaders. It deals with the developments of the situation in northern Lebanon.

Arab League To Call Foreign Ministers Meeting

JN061142 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] A source close to the Arab League's general secretariat said that Secretary General Chedli Klibi has started preliminary contacts for convening an Arab foreign ministers meeting whose date and venue will announced within the next 24 hours. The source said Klibi's move came in response to a Saudi demand.

It is recalled that Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member, recently visited Saudi Arabia.

PLF To Join PFLP-DFLP Joint Command

JN060730 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 6 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Damascus — *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* — Intensive and concentrated talks have been taking place between the joint command of the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] on the one hand and the Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF] command on the other in order to link the PLF to the PFLP-DFLP alliance.

An important and expanded meeting was held the day before yesterday in which Dr George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah participated for the PFLP-DFLP joint command while PLF Secretary General Tal'at Ya'qub participated for the PLF. The meeting was held to come up with a command formula based on the program of unity and democratic reform issued by the PFLP and the DFLP 2 weeks ago.

Four Palestinian Groups Issue Appeal

NC061525 Paris AFP in English 1459 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, Nov 6 (AFP) — Four Palestinian groups today issued an urgent appeal to halt the "massacre" of Palestinian camps in northern Lebanon. The four organizations, in a joint statement here, condemned the attacks by Syrian-backed dissident forces against guerrillas loyal to Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasir 'Arafat in two Palestinian camps located outside the Lebanese port city of Tripoli. The statement followed a meeting yesterday of leaders of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestinian Communist Party and the Palestine Liberation Front. The four groups warned that warfare would fail to resolve the political differences that have split the Palestinian movement since last May and would create only a "sea of blood" between brother combatants.

George Habash, leader of the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, yesterday appealed to Syrian president Hafiz al-Asad, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and South Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to seek all means possible to end the fighting outside the Lebanese port city of Tripoli.

Palestinian Demonstrators in Damascus Fired On

JN051628 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1605 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Brethren, the Syrian intelligence organs and special units committed a new massacre against the sons of our Palestinian and Syrian peoples in the Palestinian Al-Yarmuk camp in Damascus this afternoon when angry demonstrations were staged condemning the Syrian regime's crimes against our people and revolution in northern Lebanon. During these demonstrations, Palestinian and Syrian citizens chanted slogans in support of the revolution and its leader, Brother Abu 'Ammar. The Syrian intelligence and special units' elements opened machine gun fire on the Palestinian and Syrian demonstrators, who expressed their absolute dissatisfaction with the Syrian and Libyan regimes' war against the Palestinian revolution and our people's camps in northern Lebanon. Initial reports we have just received indicate that the number of victims is very high. In the meantime, the Damascus authorities are trying to tell news agencies that a small number of people were either killed or wounded in the Al-Yarmuk camp incidents today.

7 Killed at Al-Yarmuk

JN051635 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Palestinian sources said in Damascus this evening that 7 Palestinians were killed and 26 were wounded during the clashes that took place between the inhabitants of the Al-Yarmuk camp and Syrian security forces. The sources added that the Syrian authorities encircled the Palestinian camp and searched some of the surrounding area.

'Arafat Message

JN051648 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Brethren, we have just received the following:

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar has addressed the following greeting to the masses of the Al-Yarmuk camp in Damascus:

Out of their commitment to their revolution and national leadership, out of loyalty to the martyrs' blood, and in preservation of the PLO's accomplishments, hundreds of soldiers and officers from the Palestine Leberation Army's Hittin and Al-Qadisiyah forces have joined the ranks of their revolution and people with their tanks and personal weapons. They announced that they will not participate in the liquidatory plot the Syrian and Lebyan regimes and their agents are implementing in the Palestinian arena with the aim of completing the imperialist- Zionist scheme that the enemy failed to implement in 1982. We are now together confronting the agent, vile, liquidatory onslaught with splendid heroism and great determination.

The honorable stands of our brother officers and soldiers in the Liberation Army are continuing to embody the hopes and will of their people to maintain this Army as the Palestinian People's army, and not the army of the Syrian staff or agent Tariq al-Khadra. Our morale is very high, and there is further steadfastness against the plot. We will remain together, O our heroic people in the valiant Al-Yarmuk camp, until victory. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] Your Brother Abu 'Ammar

'Sit-in' Held in PLO Offices in Damascus

GF051752 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Brothers: Palestinian citizens and Palestinian mass organizations today staged a sit-in in the PLO offices in Damascus calling for a halt in the bombardment of our refugee camps, revolution, and people. The sit-in took place under the slogan: "Hands off our people."

This the Voice of Palestine, the voice of the Palestinian revolution.

Libyans Arrest Palestinian Trade Union Official

JN041959 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] In Tripoli, Libya, the Libyan authorities have arrested Haj Muhammad Shaykh, secretary of the Libyan branch of the General Federation of Palestinian Workers. This action is within the framework of a campaign of arrests that included several Palestinians in Libya who refused to support the dissident movement led by the Syrian and Libyan regimes.

WAFA Quoted on Dissidents-Karami Meeting

JN062026 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2015 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 6 Nov (SANA) — Brothers Nimr Salih, member of Fatah Central Committee, and Talal Naji, member of the PLO Executive Committee, today met with Rashid Karami, former Lebanese prime minister and member of the Lebanese National Salvation Front. WAFA said that during the meeting they discussed the latest developments in northern Lebanon, particularly the tense situation in Tripoli. The meeting was held in an atmosphere of complete understanding and they agreed on continuing the dialogue and contacts between the Lebanese and Palestinian sides.

Cabinet Reshuffle, Other Changes Expected

PM041102 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Nov 83 p 1

[*ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Cairo bureau report: "Leadership Changes Expected in Egypt; New Speaker for People's Assembly and Limited Cabinet Reshuffle"]

[Text] *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* has learned that the next few days will witness changes in the political leadership in Egypt, but these are expected to be limited in nature.

Most significant of the changes is a limited Cabinet reshuffle before the government submits its statement to the People's Assembly, which is traditionally 2 weeks from the opening date of the new session.

It is being reiterated that the reshuffle will result in Minister of Supply Naji Shatlah and Ministers of State for People's Assembly and Consultative Council Affairs Muhammad Rashwan and Mukhtar Hani leaving the Cabinet. Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Radwan, minister of state for cultural affairs is expected to become minister of State for People's Assembly and Consultative Council affairs.

It is also expected that a new ministry, to be known as the Ministry of Popular Housing, will be created and will be headed by Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, the present minister of state for housing and land reclamation.

Furthermore, it has been confirmed that the term of Dr Sufi Abu Talib as People's Assembly speaker will not be renewed. Dr Kamil Laylah, chairman of the Education Committee in the People's Assembly, is to be nominated in his place. Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, People's Assembly member and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Mahdi Amin, secretary for peasant affairs in the National Democratic Party, will be nominated deputy speakers in place of Sayyid Zaki and Mukhtar 'Abd al-Hamid.

Other expected changes also include Dr Usamah al-Baz, head of the President's Bureau for Political Affairs and first Foreign Ministry under secretary, who is expected to be nominated for the post of Egyptian ambassador in Washington, succeeding Ambassador Ashraf Ghurbal, who has been in his post for about 10 years. Al-Baz is likely to be succeeded by Ambassador 'Abd ar-Ra'uf ar-Ridi, Egypt's permanent UN representative in Geneva. He will be appointed assistant to Dr al-Baz for a short period of time, after which he will succeed him in his post.

It is understood that Dr al-Baz is currently visiting the United States for a heart checkup in Cleveland in order to determine whether or not his condition requires surgery.

Indications are that the changes will also involve certain press leaders in the light of President Mubarak's statement about the need to give younger men an opportunity to succeed those who have reached retirement age, although the latter will continue to write in their particular papers without being in the top posts.

Those who will reach retirement age (60) in the next few months include Musa Sabri, chairman of the board and chief editor of the newspaper *AL-AKHBAR*; Muhammad 'Abd al-Jawad, chairman of the board and chief editor of MENA; 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Bari, chairman of the board of *AL-AHRAM* and *MAY*; and Anis Mansur, chairman of the board of Al-Ma'arif Publishing House and chief editor of *OCTOBER* magazine.

Mubarak Discusses PLO, Lebanon at NDP Meeting

NC051400 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] At the NDP parliamentary meeting today under President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Dr Muhammad Kamil Laylah was nominated as speaker for the People's Assembly for the new parliamentary session.

Following the meeting, in answer to a question on whether the replacement of the People's Assembly speaker is an indication toward change, President Mubarak said: We are in continuous movement, and this movement has not stopped from the time we started it. Asked whether the circumstances are opportune for introducing changes at present, he said: We are carrying out changes whenever the necessity arises because changes are not an objective in themselves. The president said he is not in favor of change for the sake of change.

Answering a question on the current inter-Palestinian fighting in Lebanon, President Mubarak said that what is happening in Lebanon now is very regrettable. He said:

[Begin recording] [Mubarak] What is happening now is very regrettable. I appeal to the parties that they will ultimately bring the [Palestinian] cause to an end. I tell them that this is a very serious situation. We must think seriously and realize that the end of the PLO means the end of the Palestinian cause and the dispersal of the whole Palestinian people. All the parties must realize this. I call on the Arab states to adopt a unified stand in this connection because in the absence of this, there will be no [Palestinian] cause after this.

[Unidentified reporter] [sentence indistinct]

[Mubarak] I call on the Lebanese parties to reach results in the reconciliation talks and to maintain Lebanon's unity. The differences among the Lebanese parties will only lead to the partition and destruction of Lebanon. No one will benefit from this, neither they, nor others. [end recording]

Discusses Mideast, PLO Crisis

NC051115 Cairo MENA in English 1055 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 5 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak discussed today with the political group the major issues of the hour, mainly the situation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation currently besieged and facing liquidation in Tripoli, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said.

Following the president's one-hour meeting this morning with the political group, 'Ali said Egypt urged all parties to refrain from interfering in the PLO affairs and stressed the necessity for all powers to stop meddling into the Palestinian interior disputes, a thing that exposes the Palestine cause to grave perils.

Egypt also called on all parties to protect the freedom of Palestinian decision, he added.

'Ali said the meeting dealt with the situation in Lebanon in the light of the Geneva national reconciliation conference and its outcome up till now.

Egypt sees that the continuation of dialogue among all Lebanese factions is a basic factor for surmounting Lebanon's present crisis and protecting its unity and independence, 'Ali said.

Egypt also is fully confident in all the national powers' ability to overcome the crisis when offered the opportunity of reaching an agreement that realises Lebanon's interests, as a unified and stable Lebanon will be able to reformulate life on its land and among its sons, 'Ali added.

The meeting also dealt with the Mideast situation in general and the study had shown the dire need for resuming the peace march, for exercising self-restraint and for evading anything that might exacerbate and escalate tension, he added.

The foreign minister said that the discussion also dealt with the situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front, adding that the Iranian offensive on Thursday last represented an escalation of the situation on the front and a challenge to world public opinion.

He further said that Egypt appeals to all Arab and international parties concerned to shoulder their responsibility towards this situation to put an end to the bloody struggle on the Iraqi-Iranian borders.

He added that Egypt would, on its part, exert all efforts with all the influential parties to realise this end.

Replying to a query on yesterday's bloody incidents in Tyre, Hasan 'Ali said that undoubtedly the current operations were considered an escalation of the situation which exposes the whole area to a serious escalation of tension.

He said that Egypt appeals to all parties and the international community to put an end to the struggle.

On the possibility of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Egypt within the coming days, Hasan 'Ali denied knowledge of this visit.

On whether Egypt shares PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat opinion that the Syrian and Libyan forces supported the dissident Palestinians in their latest attack on the organisation, the foreign minister said that Egypt supports the legitimacy of Yasir 'Arafat.

He added that 'Arafat was in a position that allows him to affirm or deny which force were currently besieging the organisation.

Affirms Support for 'Arafat

NC061314 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 6 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has affirmed that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is up to now the moderate leader who enjoys the following of the Palestinian parties. Replying to a question by reporters, following his speech before the Consultative Council and the People's Assembly today, on the emergence of a new PLO leadership in the coming phase, President Husni Mubarak said: I do not believe that the emergence of a new PLO leadership will help solve but will rather further complicate the problem.

Replying to another question on the lack of sufficient support for Yasir 'Arafat from the various Palestinian forces, the president said Egypt, in cooperation with its brothers and neighbors, is attempting to give him the utmost support. The president added: We consider Yasir 'Arafat's leadership extremely important, and I do not believe that there is a leader in the PLO at the present time who can replace 'Arafat if he is removed from his position.

Information Minister Comments on NDP Meeting

NC051638 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Statement by Minister of State for Information Safwat as-Sharif in Cairo on 5 November — recorded]

[Text] The NDP parliamentary body held a meeting under President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today. The meeting was attended by the NDP members of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council.

The NDP parliamentary body discussed the question of the post of the People's Assembly speaker. The president said that People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib has fulfilled his role excellently for 6 years and during 5 sessions. It has been an excellent period of work for the People's Assembly. However, it is the policy of the NDP and the president to make changes and to always allow room for new ideas and talents.

The president said that while he greatly appreciated People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, the NDP would nominate Dr Kamil Laylah, People's Assembly member and NDP parliamentary body member, for the post of the speaker of the new People's Assembly. This won the unanimous approval of all the NDP parliamentary body members.

The president also discussed several topics pertaining to the NDP, especially its activity. He said we must not pay attention to the groundless rumors circulated from time to time. The NDP work and performance must be in Egypt's interest. We are working in the interest of our nation and our people which comes above all else. We are not working for the interest of one individual or a certain group. We must not be affected by rumors which aim at creating confusion.

The president said: You know my style, which is to always tell you frankly what I have in mind. You know that I frankly tell my views to the NDP parliamentary body, as well as to the party leadership and party members. Therefore, let us work and not allow rumors to deflect us from our party's march and let us serve the Egyptian people's interest. We must realize that we are only worth as much as we give and also as much as we serve our nation.

The president said: As NDP leader, I say that we are living in a phase of action. The party deputies and members must work and must achieve victory for their party. This can only be achieved through good example and cohesion with the masses. We must work hard to promote the 5-year development plan, which is the main battle for the NDP. We are now in the second year of this plan. It is true that our problems are many, but we have begun implementing projects and services.

The president said: It is very important to adhere to the plan. We must address the masses and present them with the facts without ideological auctioneering to prevent extremist ideology from gaining influence or proliferating.

The president said: Achieving stability is a basic objective for achieving the development of our land and for encouraging foreign and Arab capital to invest in building production-oriented projects. The president said: All of us must know that those who do not produce their own food do not have their own will or freedom. Therefore, let us dedicate ourselves to construction, to development, and to increasing production in the fields of agriculture and industry. The president said: Let us dedicate ourselves primarily to agriculture because we must achieve self-sufficiency.

The president said: As you see, I am always visiting farms and other sites because my main objective is to increase production for the benefit of all the people. Afterward, we must pay attention to industry, which must provide for all of our people's requirements — their essential requirements of industrial products, food, and clothes. We must also have a surplus for export. We must create job opportunities for our sons. Therefore, I call upon the Egyptian people, through you, to work hard and to ignore all rumors. We have no time to waste.

Afterward, the president discussed foreign policy and answered several questions raised by the NDP parliametnary body members.

The president said: Egypt's activity on the foreign level cannot be separated from the domestic situation. Therefore, activity on the foreign level must also serve the domestic situation. The ordinary citizen must feel that foreign policy is in the service of domestic policy.

The president said: For this reason, I travelled to the United States to achieve results that would serve the development plan, which affects the needs of the ordinary citizens and the future of the overwhelming majority of our people.

The president explained in detail the outcome of his visit to the United States. He said that the Palestinian issue was the main topic in the speech which he delivered before the UN General Assembly. The president then discussed the Palestinian issue. He explained in detail the current attacks on the Palestinians as well as the massacres to which they were subjected in Beirut during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The president said this massacre was condemned by the entire world. Egypt moved and adopted a well-known stance at that time. We recalled our ambassador from Israel as a natural result of the Beirut massacre and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The decision to recall the Egyptian ambassador from Israel was also consistent with the Egyptian people's wishes.

The president said: The people elected me to express their feelings and to act in accordance with their wishes. Egypt deals with facts, the president said, and puts the interests of the people before any other consideration. Demagoguery can only achieve worthless short-term gains because people soon find out what the truth is. The president said Egyptian policy is clear-cut and we have declared it: The return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel is conditional on the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and on the solution of the Tabah problem. Israel must start with steps acceptable to the Egyptian people.

Our policy is a policy of peace based on justice. Our policy is also to support the Nonaligned Movement and have distinctive relations with the United States. He added that Egypt does not accept any military bases on its soil.

Afterward, the president clarified the Lebanese issue. He said we are living those bloody incidents which take place on the Lebanese soil — the recent attacks on the U.S., French, and Israeli headquarters. In this regard, Egypt has moved in the international scene and the president has sent personal messages to the various heads of state and to the U.S. President calling for relinquishing the use of violence as a response to violence because this will produce negative repercussions in the area. The solution is to achieve an immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory without waiting for the Syrian withdrawal and to start working with President Reagan's initiative in order to solve the Palestinian issue.

The president said: I do not want the Arabs to waste the opportunity for a solution by Arab rejections and Arab "no's." This current Arab policy gives room for Israeli expansion and foreign intevention in our region.

The president also dealt with the Lebanese national reconciliation conference in Geneva. He urged the conference to exert every possible effort and adopt resolutions to maintain the integrity and independence of Lebanese soil.

Speaking about Arab relations, the president responded to questions by [NDP] members, saying Egypt has done its best to help the Arab nation in all domains. We have always said: Let us shove aside our differences. However, Egypt still has its dignity and stature. Egypt does all it can to promote the Arab cause, but this is also done in accordance with the interests of the Egyptian people. Peace is Egypt's strategic course. It is a permanent course which Egypt cannot forsake. Egypt adopted peace because the Egyptian people want peace. Egypt will press ahead with its peace policy to achieve a just and lasting peace in the area. Egypt does not allow anyone to interfere with its decision or to impose anything on it. The people's interests are above any consideration — their future, security, hopes, solutions to their problems, and the development of their country.

The president said: Our nation, which has sacrificed martyrs and money, is now seeking a better life. The Arab contacts and consultations are underway. The president added: As I have said, I do not want to embarrass any Arab country, but Egypt is a leader in the Arab world by virtue of its civilization, scientists, experts, and its knowledge, power, and influence.

Afterward, the president responded to questions regarding Egypt's election to a seat in the UN Security Council. He said Egypt won the Security Council seat because of an active Egyptian move and the outstanding support of the African countries. The 125 votes Egypt received is a great success. We must think about this success which points to Egypt's stature and the success of the Egyptian move in securing a presence in the international arena. The president said this honorable success was not achieved by chance, but because Egypt restored its stature and position in the Arab world, in the Nonaligned Movement, and in Africa.

Mubarak Congratulates Andropov on Anniversary

NC061028 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 6 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following congratulatory cable to Yuriy Andropov, secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

It pleases me to send to Your Excellency most sincere congratulations on the occasion of your celebration of the anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution. While looking forward to the establishment of stronger relations between our two friendly peoples, we send Your Excellency best wishes for your good health and happiness and for the friendly Soviet peoples' further progress and advancement.

Ghali Returns From Khartoum, Praises Meeting

NC041914 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this evening from Khartoum after heading the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the five African foreign ministers conference, which concluded today.

Dr Ghali praised the results of the meetings among the foreign ministers of Egypt, Sudan, Uganda, Central Africa, and Zaire. He said the conferees agreed on the need to consolidate relations among these countries. The five countries also agreed to condemn the Libyan intervention in Chad and to support the OAU and SWAPO, which is fighting for the independence of Namibia.

He said the five countries appealed to the Lebanese parties to achieve a kind of national reconciliation that will strengthen the Lebanese survival.

He said these countries called for the need for the Palestinian people to regain their legitimate rights. He said the African meeting is the first fruit of the Egyptian-Sudanese integration and both countries will take further steps to strengthen African relations.

He further said the intention is not to establish an axis, because Egypt rejects axes both in the Arab world and Africa. He said Egypt always appeals for Arab unity and African unity and that any African country can join this group.

Army Commander Comments on Recent Battles

JN042114 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Speaking tonight at a news briefing held in a forward position of the theater of operations, the staff major general commander of the I Army Corps said that the night before last the Iranian enemy attacked the northern sector of the defensive positions in the Panjwin area, particularly the Al-Mansur forces. He added that the enemy tried to push forward from different directions, infiltrating here and there in an attempt to gain a foothold in this or that direction.

The commander of the I Army Corps stressed that the Iranian enemy was expelled from the positions it reached yesterday and was crushed in several of the axes from which it moved through the numerous valleys and hills and the thick woods. The enemy suffered huge, indescribable losses. I stress that the enemy's losses during this attack are grave. He further said that the enemy continued its attack all last night and today, and that ferocious battles are continuing day and night without interruption. He said that the Iranian enemy is not paying any attention to its human and material losses, either in this attack and battle or in the preceding battles of the war.

As for us, we will continue the war with the same high and ever refreshing morale. Consequently, he added, the battles will be clearly decided with our known and firm might and ability to destroy the enemy and inflict severe harm on its aggression. On this premise, we will continue to fight the enemy in this battle with persistence and high spirits.

Concluding, the staff major general commander of the I Army Corps said: Our valiant forces are determined to crush the Iranian enemy's forces and to prevent any force, no matter what it is, from harming our strong Iraq. Our swords are still sharp, our persistence is certain, and our confidence in our arms is strong — particularly our confidence in the most decisive arm of our faith in God and in our leadership headed by His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn.

Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques

Communique 1,269

JN041822 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Communique No 1.269 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 4 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

That we might give them a taste of a penalty of humiliation in this life; but the penalty of a hereafter will be more humiliating still: And they will find no help. [Koranic verse]

While recording a great epic in their glorious history, wiping out the forces of aggression, and scattering their bodies in the valleys and mountains in the I Army Corps sector, the great Iraqis prove that they will always be capable of teaching the aggressors painful lessons as long as they continue their aggressive march and their ambitions in Iraq, and as long as they continue to show contempt for the desires of the international community. Let charlatan Khomeyni and his suspect henchmen, whose sick dreams tell them that they can reach Iraqi soil, know that neither they nor others will be able to desecrate our soil and shrines because the glorious sons of Iraq are a wall of steel on which all of their barbaric human waves, rancor, and greed will founder and break.

Instead of learning a lesson from all the disasters and defeats inflicted on them — the latest being their aggression against Iraqi territory on the night of 2-3 November 1983 in the Panjwin area, where they were confronted, stopped, and counterattacked, thus sustaining thousands of casualties and losing thousands as prisoners — the Iranian rulers wanted to try their bad luck again by attacking our forces in the same area, in the I Army Corps sector, yesterday evening, 3-4 November 1983. Our valiant units confronted this attempt and fought heroic battles with its forces all night last night and today. The heroes of the I Army Corps fought valiantly and taught the aggressors a new Iraqi lesson. Our units managed to confront and halt the hostile attack, and they inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. The fierce battles are still raging between our heroic units and the aggressive enemy forces. We will provide the details of these battles later, God willing.

Since early this morning, the planes of our able Air Force and our courageous helicopters, in coordination with our land units, continued their daring attacks and intensive and successful raids against enemy concentrations and communication lines in the area where the battles are taking place. Our planes scored accurate and painful hits against enemy personnel, equipment, and vehicles and set several enemy emplacements and equipment on fire. Other formations of our fighter planes continued their raids against important enemy military targets deep inside enemy territory, scoring accurate hits and inflicting grave losses. All our fighter planes and helicopters returned safely and successfully to base, thanks be to God. Our fighter planes carried out 100 missions today and our helicopters 50.

Great Iraq will remain lofty, and the dwarves, no matter how big they become, will not defeat it. Iraq's mountains will be a crematorium for the aggressive forces and its valleys will be a mass grave for them whenever they try to commit an aggression against Iraq. Iraq's banner will remain lofty, it dignity will be untouched. The curse of history and of generations will haunt the covetous and suspect Tehran rulers as they reign over the skulls of their people. Humanity will curse them as long as life continues on Earth. God is great; victory is ours; and Iraq will be glorious.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 November 1983.

Communique 1,270

JN051821 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1716 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,270 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Dazzle thee: In reality God's plan is to punish them with these things in this life, and that their souls may perish in their very denial of God. [Koranic verse]

The brave Iraqis, while confronting the criminal Iranian aggression on behalf of the Arab nation since 1980 and preventing the criminal enemy forces from desecrating Iraq's land and mountains, are quite confident that they will remain strong and victorious and that their enemy will continue to reap loss and defeat. The great victories will remain medals of pride and symbols of honor for their militant march against the hateful Khomeyniite onslaught and backwardness.

Today, and for the fourth successive day, our valiant army units have been waging fierce battles against the criminal enemy forces, destroying the hostile enemy attempts and inflicting massive losses in personnel and equipment. Last night 4-5 November 1983, our brave units carried out a lightning attack on the enemy units in the Panjwin area of the I Army Corps sector. After a fierce and unique battle with the enemy, our units managed to destroy the aggressor forces and tear them to pieces that were scattered everywhere. Only those who fled in panic and fear of God's punishment and the heroic Iraqis' hell escaped death. The enemy positions were filled with a large number of dead and with destroyed weapons and equipment, in addition to a large number of wounded, prisoners of war, and intact weapons that our units seized.

This morning the vicious enemy tried — as it previously had — to attack our heroic units in the same sector. The heroes of our bold army confronted it with hearts abounding with courage and love for God and the homeland and with loyalty to the revolution and leader. They clashed with the enemy forces in fierce battles whose results were decisive. The enemy was defeated, and its forces and intentions were destroyed. With today's fighting, our forces added further massive losses to the previous ones inflicted on the enemy. These amounted to thousands of killed or wounded and a large number of various types of weapons and military equipment destroyed. It was not possible to count the losses by the time of this communique.

Our fighter planes and helicopter gunships, in cooperation with our heroic ground units, played a big role today in boldly confronting the enemy units and foiling the enemy attack. Since early this morning, our aircraft have continued their concentrated air activities and violent blows to the enemy units, troop concentrations, and vehicles in the I Army Corps sector, scoring direct and serious hits.

Other formations of our fighter planes dealt very accurate and effective blows to the enemy concentrations, supply lines, and transportation routes that are located near the battlefield and deep inside enemy territory in the same sector. These formations managed to deal with and either destroy or damage several enemy vehicles and quantities of various types of equipment and weapons. Our air raids caused large fires to erupt in enemy positions, hardware stockpiles, and equipment. All of our fighter planes and helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our fighter planes carried out 105 combat missions today, while our helicopter gunships carried out 66 combat missions.

In another development, the rancorous enemy shelled Basra and Mandali and their suburbs with artillery today. The savage enemy shelling resulted in the martyrdom of one woman, the wounding of five civilians, the demolition of one house, and the eruption of fires in Basra. It also caused damage to some civilian establishments in Mandali.

God is great and victory is the lot of the Iraqis, owners of rights and principles. Death and disappointment to their enemies — enemies of God, humanity, and progress.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 Novemebr 1983

Communique 1,271

JN061717 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,271 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In defense of great Iraq and to safeguard the security of its sons and its territorial integrity, our valiant Armed Forces continue their just and honorable fighting against the forces of the clique of evil and expansion in Iran. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our able aircraft today carried out daring and intensive raids against enemy troop concentrations and communication lines in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring accurate and effective hits, and inflicted on the enemy losses in life and equipment. All our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our valiant units continued to deal harsh blows to the enemy forces opposite their positions in the Panjwin area in the northern sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, inflicting on the enemy more losses in life and equipment.

3. Our helicopters today attacked enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting on them losses in life and equipment. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. Three were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. Two infantry positions were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

6. The criminal Khomeyniite enemy yesterday evening and today shelled Mandali and Khanaqin and their suburbs, Sayyid Sadiq, and (Shandri), damaging one house in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 November 1983

President Returns From 3-Day Tour of Front

JN051733 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, returned to Baghdad late this afternoon after spending 3 days on an inspection tour of the I Army Corps sector on the battlefront against the vile Iranian regime's aggression. During the visit, the president met with the I Army Corps commander and several field commanders and discussed with them the military situation in the sector and the latest developments.

The president also became acquainted with our brave fighters' high morale while they were waging the fiercest battles in defense of our cherished homeland and recording the most splendid epics by destroying the criminal enemy forces, containing all their rash attacks and teaching them hard lessons and inflicting massive losses in both men and equipment.

Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, the chief of staff, accompanied the president on his tour of the I Army Corps sector. The president spent his first night in As-Sulaymaniyah and last night in Kirkuk.

ATH-THAWRAH Reports on Panjwin Battles

JN070901 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0755 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Nov (INA) — Press reports arriving from the northern sector emphasize that yesterday's battles in the fighting axes in the Panjwin basin were fierce.

A report from the *ATH-THAWRAH* team, published today, says that the Iranian regime threw in more forces in an attempt to launch new attacks and reach targets north of the Panjwin basin, but the enemy failed to achieve its aims and its forces were defeated.

The report adds that fierce battles raged yesterday in the valleys and on the slopes [of the Panjwin area] during which the Iranian forces sustained large painful losses in both personnel and equipment. The team said that the Iraqi forces managed to put up barrages of gunfire, enabling them to hunt a large number of Iranian troops that tried to infiltrate the Iraqi positions under cover of darkness.

The team indicated that Iraqi artillery dealt strong blows to the Iranian positions, hitting them directly, paralyzing their ability to move, and giving our fighters the chance to use their weapons more efficiently and to concentrate on destroying the enemy force.

The team stressed that yesterday's battles depended not only on the method of repulsing concentrated attacks, but also on exhausting and destroying the enemy forces before they could either move or attack [words indistinct].

Arab League's Klibi Arrives, Makes Statement

JN042206 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Baghdad tonight. In a statement to INA, Klibi said: As I arrive in Baghdad, I would like to salute the heroic Iraqi people led by President Saddam Husayn, whom I will be honored to meet to discuss current preparations to hold the next Arab summit. He praised Iraq's positive efforts to stop the war with Iran. He said that Iraq's stands have proved to the world its determination to stop the bloodshed. He expressed hope that international endeavors will bear fruit in ending the war by responding to world appeals for peace, particularly the recent Security Council appeal. He hoped that the war will end soon and will result in a just, permanent peace.

Klibi was received on arrival by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the chiefs of the protocol and Arab departments at the Foreign Ministry; and a number of officials from specialized Arab organizations.

Ramadan, Klibi Speeches

JN051703 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1435 GMT 5 nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Nov (INA) — A ranking Iraqi official has strongly attacked the Syrian regime's interference in and support for the Iranian regime's aggression against Iraq.

The Iraqi official, Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, said that the Syrian regime has not only declared its military and material support for the Iranian aggression, but has adopted a hostile stand toward Iraq. This stand conflicts with the simplest rules of Arab behavior and ethics.

In a speech he delivered here today on behalf of President Saddam Husayn at the 15th session of the committee coordinating between the Arab League General Secretariat on the one hand, and the organizations and bodies operating within the Arab League on the other, Ramadan added that the Syrian regime teamed up with the Iranian enemy and imposed an economic siege on Iraq when it banned the flow of Iraqi oil through Syrian territory. Ramadan said that the Syrian regime has closed the borders with Iraq and banned the transit of goods to Iraq. He added that by doing so, the Syrian regime has violated the charter of the joint Arab economic action and the Arab agreement to facilitate transit, an agreement that was signed within the framework of the Arab League.

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has stressed that the Arab organizations operating within the Arab League support Iraq in regaining its legitimate rights, reinforcing its development efforts, and assisting it in rebuilding its facilities and installations destroyed by the war.

In a speech he delivered on this occasion, Klibi said that this war that has been imposed on us is one of the means of stopping the historical march in this region in the interest of the forces of aggression and hegemony. This war has also led to further instability by affecting the regional balance and opening the door to the struggle between forces and interests in a region that enjoys rich resources and an important strategic location.

Klibi added: We are required not to allow ideological and political differences to hamper the march of development and integration nor distract us from our essential issues so as to present successful examples in the field of joint action.

Klibi stressed that the local and regional conflicts and the attempts to internationalize and exploit them against the interests of the region have weakened the role of the pan-Arab institutions that work within the framework drawn up by the Arab League Charter. He said that this has led to the need to amend the charter and to present the amendment to the coming Arab summit for approval.

Klibi expressed the hope that the coming Arab summit will examine the approval of the rules of action for the Arab States — rules which have been set up by the good offices committee so as to contain the differences and end bilateral conflicts, given that these rules are a document that complements the new charter.

'Aziz Receives Klibi

JN051807 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

'Aziz briefed Klibi on the situation at the front, the continued Iranian aggression against Iraq, and Iraq's resolute readiness to defend its territory and sovereignty as well as the basic interests of the Arab nation. He stressed Iraq's firm stand on cooperating with the Arab nation. He stressed Iraq's firm stand on cooperating with the Arab League General Secretariat and its institutions so as to support and develop joint Arab action in all fields.

Klibi expressed appreciation for Iraq's strong stands and pride in defending its sovereignty and security as well as the Arab nation. He also appreciated Iraq's principled stands calling for the achievement of a peaceful and just solution to the conflict with Iran. Talks during the meeting dealt with current developments in the Arab arena, the topics to be discussed at the coming Arab summit, and the catastrophes and dangers for the Palestinian question.

Saddam-Klibi Meeting

JN061206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1158 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, and discussed with him the Arab and Palestinian developments. They also discussed means of strengthening the basis for joint Arab action in the social, economic, and political fields. Klibi praised Iraq's peaceful endeavors to solve the dispute with Iran and expressed his support for Iraq in its just battle to defend its sovereignty and territory. He hoped that the war would end and peace would be established in the area.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the president's secretary.

Tyre Explosion, Israeli Air Raids Reported

JN041340 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Southern Lebanon — Zionist invasion forces instituted a 3-day curfew on Tyre, in southern Lebanon, following the explosions that took place this morning in the Zionist military governor's office and the Zionist forces' headquarters in Tyre. Enemy forces blocked all roads leading to the scene of the explosions. Zionist ambulances are still transferring the casualties. The Zionist military governor and a large number of his officers are still under the rubble. Meanwhile, large- scale rescue operations, in which choppers are being used, continue in the area. Columns of smoke are covering the scene of the explosions and can still be seen from afar. The number of casualties among the Zionist forces has risen to more than 150 killed or wounded. Latest reports indicate that a huge vehicle smashed into the 2-story building and went off, destroying it completely. Volleys of fire were heard after the explosion. Local citizens said that explosions were still being heard at 0930. It is believed that these explosions were from an ammunition depot.

In an urgent AFP dispatch, it is said that the Zionist warplanes strafed the Bhamdun area, 15 km southeast of Beirut.

Syrian Media Admit Involvement in PLO Fighting

JN061732 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Syrian media have admitted that the Syrian forces were participating directly in the military operations against the Palestinian refugee camps and the revolution's positions in northern Lebanon and that they are besieging them. This came in reports broadcast by Damascus radio and carried by various news media. The Syrian media's admission of the Syrian forces' direct involvement in the military operation and the besieging and shelling of Palestinian refugee camps puts an end to the Syrian regime's lies and claims about Syrian nonparticipation in the fighting and that the fighting is internecine Palestinian fighting.

It is to be noted that the PLO had pointed out on more than one occasion the Syrian and Libyan forces' participation in fighting and besieging of the Palestinian refugee camps and the Palestinian revolution's positions in northern Lebanon.

King Husayn Warns Syria Over Lebanon Policy

LD051153 Kuwait KUNA in English 1024 GMT 05 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 5 (KUNA) — Syria will suffer the same fate as Lebanon if it continues to take advantage of the unstable situation in the region, Jordan's King Husayn was quoted Saturday as warning. Syria will suffer the consequences of its continued involvement in Lebanon, the Gulf war and in Palestinian affairs, he said.

"The conditions prevailing in Syria and Lebanon are similar, and just as Lebanon has been partitioned, so Syria may find itself similarly divided some day," Husayn told the Kuwait English-language daily "*ARAB TIMES*."

Syria plans to divide the Arab world by supporting causes that go against the interests of the region's people, he said. Syria is currently occupying areas of northern Lebanon from where it is backing anti-Lebanese government movements and trying to isolate, and possibly wipe out the Palestinian leadership of Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, according to the Jordanian monarch. Syria's presence, concentrated in the Lebanese town of Tripoli where 'Arafat's forces have been under heavy attack since Friday, is complicating the issue of Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, he said.

Israel, which is occupying approximately one third of the country, south of the Al-Awwali river, has refused to withdraw its almost 30,000 troops until Syria stages a similar pull back. Syria has deployed an estimated 30,000 men in the country since 1976, when it entered Lebanon at the request of the [word indistinct] government to quell sectarian strife. Syria, effecting a stalemate with Israel, has now refused to comply with Lebanese requests to withdraw until war-torn Lebanon is free from Israeli troops.

"We feel that all foreign forces should leave Lebanon. In the past we supported the presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon, but not to the extent of dividing the country," king Husayn reaffirmed.

Meanwhile, he called Lebanon's partition a "reality" which would become permanent should the Geneva-based Lebanese reconciliation conference fail to reach a compromise. "Its failure will mean catastrophe, not only for Lebanon. Other countries will be affected too, and will then see they should have heeded our warnings," he added in reference to the Syrian policy in Lebanon.

In a related subject, Husayn criticized the Arab world for not complying with stipulations of the joint Arab defense agreement in the Iraq-Iran war. If the Arab world were committed to cooperation, the Gulf war could have been controlled and Jordan would have continued to play an active role in the Arab political arena, he said. "The Jordanian role is there, but the form of Arab cooperation has been violated." Therefore, Jordan is now concentrating on its internal problems.

However, despite Jordanian commitments to the Palestinian cause, "Jordan will not be a substitute homeland for the Palestinians." Jordan is the homeland of the Jordanians. Just as there is pride in the Palestinian identity, so too is there pride in the Jordanian identity," he explained. The door to Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations remains open, however, the situation has become more complicated and should be taken into account by the Palestine Liberation Organization should it desire to re-open talks.

Meanwhile, Jordan will sit and wait for the outcome of the Geneva talks, the current inter-PLO disagreements and the upcoming Arab summit, before it reassesses its role in the conflicts of the region, the Jordanian monarch indicated.

King Husayn Receives Palestinian Cadres 5 Nov

JN051917 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn met at the Royal Hashemite Court at noon today with the representatives of the popular cadres in the refugee and evacuee camps in the kingdom. They greeted the manly and honorable position that his majesty adopts in support of the Palestinian legitimacy, his support for the Palestinian rights against the dangers to which they are being exposed in northern Lebanon, his continued pan-Arab efforts to serve the Palestine question, and his work in restoring the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights.

The representatives of the camps praised the positions of His Majesty King Husayn, who was among the first of the Arab leaders to recognize the PLO. They also affirmed their rallying aournd his courageous leadership, their support for the unity of the two Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, and their support for the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, which aims at rescuing the Palestinian people and land. The conferees also expressed their condemnation and denunciation of the Syrian-Libyan aggressions against the Palestinian camps in Tripoli, aggessions that are considered to be the final chapter of the Sabra and Shatila camps massacres.

His Majesty King Husayn replied, saying: I thank the brothers, who gave me this chance to talk to them as a brother talks to his kinfolk and brothers, and say: All the sons of Jordan, myself and my soldiers live in pain and suffering at the service of this cause in my capacity as an official in charge of what happened and is still happening inthe Arab arena in the face of challenge and dangers. [sentence as heard] We live in an age of amazing and strange things in which we see Arab arms directed against the chests of the sons of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation as well random acts and attempts to divide, separate, and exhaust so that the Arab nation will be an easy morsel for its numerous enemies. Despite all of this, we rarely hear somebody drawing attention to the danger of what is happening or calling for the need to correct the course.

His Majesty King Husayn added: I affirm to you that we will continue as we always do to speak the truth, and in speaking the true word, we do not fear any blame. We will also support right in the face of all the challenges and dangers. The one family to which we belong is always ready to sacrifice, to heed the call of duty, and to support right. His majesty added: We do what we can to contact the brothers in the Arab homeland on all levels in compliance with our unchanged position concerning the Palestinian legitimacy, which is being exposed to obvious attempts to deprive it of its will and independence so that the Palestinian word and card will be a toy in some people's hands and will be exploited in order to implement their goals and aims. We drew attention to that danger from the beginning, and we will not accept it in any form.

His Majesty King Husayn also said: We have great hope that Palestinian decisionmaking will remain free and Palestinian in the full meaning of the word, since our occupied land and holy places are confronting the occupation and all of its plans and aims. He also added: We in Jordan are leading those who are ready to assume their duties side by side with their brothers, the owners of the cause, in order to rescue the land, realize right, and preserve the Arab personality. We in the Jordanian-Palestinian and the Palestinian-Jordanian family have gained experience through suffering, and it is our fate to stand in a manly, honorable, sincere, honest, and faithful manner, in order to defend Jordan and the Palestine question until right is restored to its owners.

His Majesty King Husayn concluded: We are maintaining continuous contacts to end this uselessness and to be able to stop this deterioration that leads to loss. We have great hope that God will grant us success in our joint endeavors.

Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, attended the meeting.

King Husayn Receives PLO's Hani al-Hasan 5 Nov

JN051927 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah movement's Central Committee and political adviser to the PLO Executive Committee chairman. Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Ahmad Al-Lawzi attended the meeting.

Following the meeting, Al-Hasan made a statement in which he said: I have conveyed to His Majesty King Husayn the commendations and high appreciation with which the Palestinians received his majesty's call to the Arab kings and presidents and the clear-cut position toward the disgusting crime that is being committed against the Palestinian people in Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi Camps, especially since Jordan has reiterated its firm position toward the Palestinian legitimacy represented by the PLO executive committee under Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat].

Al-Hasan added: We will continue consultations and cooperation with the brothers in Jordan, because the conspiracy not only aims at the Palestinians but also at the unity of the two Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, a fact that requires a joint concept on the basis of which confrontation will take place. He also said: I seize this opportunity to express the commendations and high appreciation of the brothers in Algeria, led by Brother President Chadli Bendjedid, who has also adopted a clear-cut position, without any flattery, in defense of the Palestinian people.

Al-Hasan also expressed his thanks to the friendly French Government for its brave position, and said: We hope that France will move both in the European and international arenas to acquire international resolutions that will grant the Palestinians self-determination after this long march of torture. He also pointed out: We have been waging the battle of the Palestinian future for months. Those who are against Abu 'Ammar support the Israeli position, whether or not they are aware of it.

Al-Hasan returned from Tunis after studying the situation with the Fatah Central Committee members who are there.

Husayn Receives Cable From Jordan PLA Commanders

JN060708 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Cable from Colonel Na'im al-Khatib, commander of the Palestinian Liberation Army in Jordan to His Majesty King Husayn — date not given]

[Text] With great appreciation and gratitude, I commend the brave, noble stand stemming from your genune pan-Arab and Islamic belonging in order to stop the shedding of Palestinian blood, which is wasted uselessly by the hands of those who advocate pan-Arabism, unity, and freedom and who are trying to write the last chapter of the life of Palestinian people whose will was never weakened or bowed and who did not bargain over their genuineness and their belonging to their land.

Since it is the legitimate, sole representative of the Palestine question and the guardian of the Palestine question that has rejected any one-upmanship over it, the PLO has always been the target of domination and liquidation for those who want it for a winning card and a criminal tool of betrayal through which they could tamper with the nation's security, damage its solitarty, and disrupt its positions.

Yes, Your Majesty, the Arab land has not yet become so small that the Palestinians cannot find a piece of land on which they can live in freedom and dignity, because they will find it in your big, generous heart. We in Badr Forces place our blood at your disposal to liberate our usurped land and defend the Arab land and the Arab man over any land and under any sky.

King Phones Saudi Counterpart on Tripoli Fighting

JN061814 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn this afternoon telephoned His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia to consult with him on what should be done to halt the fighting currently raging in the Palestinian refugee camps and the Tripoli area in northern Lebanon which only serves the Arab nation's enemies and negatively reflects on the Palestinian cause.

During the telephone conversation, the two kings stressed the need to achieve joint Arab action and safeguard Palestinian legitimacy.

King Phones Saddam Husayn on PLO, Iraq-Iran War

JN061926 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn this evening telephoned Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. They discussed the tragic developments to which the Palestinian people are being exposed. The two leaders also condemned the brutal onslaught to which the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples are being exposed and which aims at undermining the Palestinian legitimacy and depriving it of its will and independent decisionmaking.

The telephone conversation between his majesty and President Saddam also touched on the lates developments on the Iraqi-Iranian front. President Saddam reassured his majesty of the situation of the Iraqi forces, which stand in a manly and brave manner to confront and repulse the Iranian regime's forces and foil their aggressive plans.

Husayn Expresses Support for 'Arafat

LD051007 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0810 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Nov (SPA) — King Husayn of Jordan has declared that the door is always open to a resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue despite the many changes which have occurred on the arena since the last round of dialogue was suspended.

The king of Jordan affirmed in an interview published today by *'AL-JAZIRAH'* his confidence in the leadership and popularity of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and in the organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people according to the Rabat Arab summit. He said that "The Jordanian and Palestinian peoples are bretheren; however Jordan will not be an alternative for the Palestinian homeland."

He explained that the dialogue with 'Arafat discussed assimilating some of the Palestinians, on certain security conditions, inside Jordan, which welcomes the Palestinians wishing to emigrate there.

The king of Jordan stressed the need for the Lebanese national conciliation conference in Geneva to succeed. He mentioned that the failure of the conference will be a catastrophe for Lebanon. He said that had there been a minimum degree of Arab solidarity the Iraqi-Iranian war would have stopped immediately and it would have been possible to hold an Arab summit at any time. Moreover, it would have been possible to adopt an Arab decision that would serve the supreme Arab interest.

He added that Iraq has a strong defensive position and even stronger than this is its internal front. It will continue to remain capable of defending its border. He pointed out that Iraq's defeat will make the situation in the Gulf region and in the Arabian Peninsula very serious. However this will not happen because Iraq's position is reassuring.

King Husayn praised the stances of the Kingdom and of Kuwait in particular concerning the payment of the financial aid for Jordan decided at the Baghdad summit. He stressed Jordan's need for such a commitment from all countries in view of its obligations to the armament contracts which call for payment for the weapons it has contracted to buy on time.

UK's Luce Meets Husayn, Other Officials

JN061343 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court today Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs. During the meeting, a review was made of the situation in the occupied Arab territory, developments in the Lebanese crisis, and a number of current international issues. The role of the European community in contributing to a just, permanent solution to the Middle East crisis was also discussed. Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and the British ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim also received Mr Luce in his office. They exchanged views on the various international issues, with special emphasis on the Middle East problem, particularly the Palestinian issue. They also expressed hope that efforts will continue to find a just, comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem. They condemned Israel's policy of establishing settlements in the occupied Arab territory. The British minister asserted that his government's policy is based on the Venice Declaration which the EEC states issued in 1980.

In their discussion about the Lebanese situation, al-Qasim and Luce expressed hope that the conflicting parties in Lebanon would reach a solution to preserve the legitimacy there and protect Lebanon's freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. They stressed the need for continuing the current international efforts to quickly end the Iraqi-Iranian war and establish a peaceful solution for the conflict between the two countries.

The two ministers expressed their satisfaction with the development of the friendly relations between the two countries and peoples, and their hope that this development will continue in the service of the two countries and peoples.

On the Jordanian side, the meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministry secretary general and a number of Foreign Ministry officials. The British ambassador in Amman and the deputy director of the Near East and North Africa desk at the British Foreign Office attended on the British side.

Hasan Ibrahim, minister of occupied land affairs, also met with Mr Luce and explained to him the situation in the occupied Arab territories. He explained the harsh daily living conditions of the people there which is a result of the difficult economic situation and the occupation authorities' measures and practices against them, something which aggravates their suffering.

They also exchanged views on the latest developments in the Middle East problem and the means of realizing a just and permanent peace in the region.

The British ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Staff Lieutinent General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received at the Army's general command this morning, the British minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, and met with him for some time. The Chief of the Army Staff Major General Fathi Abu Talib and the British ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Makes Statement, Leaves 6 Nov

JN062138 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Mr Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, left Amman today following a 4-day visit to Jordan. A group of Foreign Ministry officials and the British ambassador in Amman bid him farewell. Before departure, Mr Luce told a press conference that the British Government strongly opposed the Israeli settlement policy and had informed the Israelis about that opposition. He said peace in the Middle East could never be achieved unless the Palestinians' demands were met and Israel lived in peace within secure borders. He also stressed the significance of strong ties between Jordan and Britain.

[Begin Luce video recording] We have very strong ties and our Ambassador Mr Urwick has done so much for us and for Jordan to help consolidate these ties over the period in which he has been ambassador. So against that background that I have enjoyed enormously my visit here and the prspect of discussing mutual problems, mutual matters, with the leaders of the Jordan Government. Of course, it will come as no surpirse to you that aside from the importance of our bilateral relations, which we attach the greatest of significance to,a nd here I think you will all agree that the visit of her majesty the queen in March is of the clearest possible indication of the closeness of our ties. We fell very strongly there are two preconditions to peace in this area, and I have to therefore repeat almost the way that you asked your question. First, of course, it is essential that the Israelis should have the right to exist within secure boundaries, but second that there cannot be and there therefore must be a reconcilation between these two points, there cannot be peace in this area until the Palestinians have their aspirations satisfied, and how are their aspirations going to be satsified? They must have a right to determine their own future. And in the Venice Declaration it says quite clearly, quite clearly set out, we support that the Palestinians have the right to self-determination and that is very clearly our commitment. [end recording].

Husayn Receives Arab League's Klibi 4 Nov

JN041705 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. The talks dealt with current Arab affairs and developments, as well as the means for holding the upcoming Arab summit conference. His majesty underlined the significance of achieving Arab solidarity, working to repel the dangers threatening the Arab nation, and preserving the independent Palestinian decisionmaking. Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim was present at the meeting.

Klibi Departs Amman 4 Nov

JN042002 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Amman —Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Amman this evening after a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn and held talks with Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim. He was seen off at the airport by Al-Qasim and the director of protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Husayn Congratulates Andropov on USSR Anniversary

JN061810 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Amman, 6 Nov (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn has sent a cable to Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, congratulating him in his own name and on behalf of the the people and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the 66th anniversary of the socialist revolution.

In his cable, His Majesty King Husayn expressed his hope that relations of friendship and cooperation will be strengthened between the two countries in the interest of the two peoples.

Report on Al-Jumayyil Geneva News Conference

NC051341 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1138 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified member of Information Ministry mission from Inter-Continental Hotel in Geneva on news conference held by President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at the hotel on 5 November — live]

[Excerpts] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil began his news conference by thanking all those who have contributed to bringing about the success of the conference. He then thanked the journalists for the objectivity they have shown in all their reports. He said it was a great support for the conferees and a cause of the conference's success. He also thanked all the newspaper editors and commentators as well as the journalists who covered the conference through the Lebanese and international press. He said: I hope the Lebanese issue will be better understood and will enjoy support on the international level. You have begun to understand us more and more. It is hoped that you have observed during the conference session that even though his territory is occupied, man remains free in Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil thanked the Swiss Federation authorities for receiving the conference and the conferees with an open heart and a traditional warmth in the present circumstances in order to help the Lebanese citizens and people establish peace, thus achieving their aim. He also thanked in his name and in the name of the conferees the president of the Swiss Federation, Pierre Aubert, as well as the Swiss authorities, which exerted possible efforts at times and impossible efforts at other times because of some Lebanese — style behavior, to use the president's words.

He then expressed profound thanks to the press, the Geneva authorities, and the federal government. He expressed hope that the conference will mark the starting point for peace in Lebanon and in the whole area, because peace in Lebanon is the key to peace in the Middle East.

Replying to a question, the president said he had contacted the U.S. Administration, and it appears that President Reagan is about to embark on a tour in the Far East next week. President al-Jumayyil said: We are waiting for his return so as to contact him. That will not be the only contact I will be making during that period. I will also contact other officials within the framework of the preparations for our conference.

President al-Jumayyil pointed out that he has an (?intricate) program of contacts. He expressed the hope that he will be able to embark as soon as possible on a tour that will take him to a number of states in order to serve peace in his country and in the area. He did not comment on a question as to whether he will raise the 17 May agreement with President Reagan.

In reply to a question, the president said: We are waiting to fix the dates for our meeting, and I hope this will take place before 14 November. He said he agreed to visit France when French President Francois Mitterrand made his quick visit to Lebanon following the blowing up of the French headquarters. He said no date has yet been fixed for the visit and no program for the talks has yet been drawn up. President al-Jumayyil said: I am in contact with President Mitterrand, who is my friend, and our relations and cooperation are continuing. He said there is no need for fixing dates or for planning such meetings.

Replying to a question about his meeting with Walid Junblatt, President al-Jumayyil said he benefitted from the conference by holding discussions with the leaders of the National Salvation Front. These were very important contacts, and I hope that they will mark a new starting point of strong cooperation among all country's leaders, because the task of reconciliation and dialogue is not a presidential task but a national one in which everybody should participate. Lebanon belongs to all of us, President al-Jumayyil said, adding that it is a national and not a governmental responsibility. We have no right to frustrate anyone's opportunity to contribute to this responsibility.

He said the Preparatory Committee held a meeting this morning, which he chaired. He said the committee members will prepare some drafts for the coming phase of the Geneva conference. Asked if a change will take place in the Lebanese Government following the conclusion of the conference, President al-Jumayyil said: The important thing is that the atmosphere was positive and good during the Geneva conference, and that it was ascertained that Lebanon is united and that all the Lebanese leaders are prepared to cooperate to rescue Lebanon. It is not important to change a government or anything else. The important thing is to save Lebanon. He said: We will later work with regard to changing the government. Replying to a question, President al-Jumayyil said: It is not easy to work for peace. Peace in Lebanon requires more than one round and more than one emissary. Asked his opinion about the Tripoli events, the president said: The only solution, rather the only way to solve the problem of all Lebanon is to ensure national security for all Lebanese territory, and the only way to rescue Lebanon is for the Lebanese Army to assume the security responsibility on all Lebanese territory. He concluded by saying: We are working for the withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Lebanon so that the Lebanese Army will assume its responsibility.

Departs Geneva for Paris

NC051705 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has left Geneva at the conclusion of the first stage of the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva. We have with us on the line our correspondent from Paris, Antoine 'Awn:

[Begin 'Awn recording] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil is expected to arrive at the Elysee Palace shortly on a brief visit to France during which he will be received by French President Francois Mitterrand. The two presidents will hold a meeting in one of the presidential palace offices. [end recording]

President Al-Jumayyil's tour, therefore, will begin in France. This tour will take him to some Arab and world capitals for talks with their leaders to promote peace in Lebanon and the area, as President al-Jumayyil said at the news conference he held in Geneva today.

Meets Mitterrand 7 November

For Beirut and Paris coverage of the meeting between President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 7 November Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

President Meets Greek President, Returns 7 Nov

NC070924 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil arrived in Beirut just after 0800 today. AFP reported that President al-Jumayyil arrived in Athens at dawn today after leaving Paris last night at 0130 from a 24-hour visit to France during which he had lengthy talks with French President Francois Mitterrand. The talks focused on the implementaion of the Geneva National Dialogue Conference resolutions regarding the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and ensuring absolute national sovereignty over all the Lebanese territory.

Therefore, according to the latest information, President Shaykh Amin al-Jummayil returned to Beirut this morning from Athens where he met with the Greek president and held a round of talks with him on the Lebanese situation in general, especially the question of sending Greek observers to observe the cease-fire.

Al-Jumayyil Briefs Al-Wazzan 7 Nov

NC071051 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] We reported in our 1200 news summary that aircraft are overflying Beirut and its suburbs.

It has been reported that 12 U.S. planes made reconnaissance flights over Beirut and its suburbs and the aircraft disappeared a few moments ago from the capital's airspace.

We note here that clashes are intensifying in Tripoli, in its outskirts, and around Al-Baddawi camp. It was reported a short while ago that shells fell in the At-Tabbanah area in Tripoli, in Al-Jadidah quarter, and near the At-Tabbanah police station.

As is known, Yasir ‘Arafat left Al-Baddawi camp and is presently at his political office in Tripoli.

Pesident Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, who today returned from Paris, is now holding a working meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan for consultations over the outcome of the Geneva conference.

We also note that President Al-Jumayyil this morning received Speaker Kamil al-As‘ad with whom he reviewed the results of the Geneva conference and the serious situation in the south. Speaker Al-As‘ad left the Presidential Palace at 1155 without making any statement.

Conference May Be Postponed

NC070704 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has returned to Beirut after a visit of over 24 hours to the French capital during which he had talks with French President Francois Mitterrand. Circles close to President al-Jumayyil have pointed out that the second round of the Dialogue Conference in Geneva might not be held on 14 November and might have to be postponed for a week if President al-Jumayyil cannot meet with U.S. President Reagan before that date. It is worth noting that President Reagan's Far East tour will not end before the aforementioned date.

Sham‘un: Conference To Reconvene 14 Nov

NC041353 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1316 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission correspondent from Geneva — live]

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham‘un has made a statement in which he said:

[Begin recording] [Sham‘un] [Former] President Franjiyah and I have had an innocent exchange of visits. Meanwhile, conversations are taking place with all those present about the conference, about the preliminary results of the conference, and about what is expected to happen later, if the conference convenes and where it will convene. The date for the convocation of the conference's second part has been set, that is, 14 November.

[Question by unidentified reporter] The venue has not yet been specified, Your Excellency, Mr President?

[Sham‘un] The venue has not yet been specified. However, I believe that it will again be Geneva.

[Question] Well, how was the atmosphere at today's meeting?

[Sham‘un] It was excellent. [end recording]

Dialogue Conference Official Statement 4 Nov

NC042023 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1935 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission member in Geneva — live]

[Text] I have just received the text of the official statement that was issued at the end of the final session of the first round of the National Dialogue Conference. It will be officially released in a short while by conference spokesman Faruq Jabr. The following is the text of the statement:

At the invitation of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, His Excellency Camille Sham‘un, His Excellency Sulayman Franjiyah, ‘Adil ‘Usayran, Sa‘ib Salam, Rashid Karami, Shaykh

Pierre al-Jumayyil, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt met in a National Dialogue Conference in Geneva from 31 October to 4 November 1983. The conference was also attended by observers 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, delegated by the Syrian Arab Republic; and Shaykh Ibrahim Mas'ud, Saudi minister of state and member of the Council of Ministers, delegated by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The conference was chaired by His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil. The opening session was attended by His Excellency Swiss Confederation President Pierre Aubert who delivered a speech which has had a positive effect. The conference held successive sessions in addition to the opening session.

Within the framework of the comprehensive national accord, the talks centered on cooperation for liberating Lebanese territory from the Israeli occupation for ensuring Lebanon's absolute sovereignty over all its territory with the determination to consolidating the establishment of a capable and just state, and for working toward strengthening Lebanon's Arab relations and its international friendships.

As a result of the discussions — all of which have been characterized by a spirit of national responsibility and during which there was an atmosphere of complete frankness and understanding of all the subjects discussed — the following has been agreed upon:

1. The unanimous approval of Lebanon's identity formula as follows: Lebanon is a sovereign free independent country and united in territory, people, and institutions within its borders, defined in the Lebanese Constitution and internationally recognized. Lebanon is of Arab affiliation and identity, a founding and active member of theArab League , and is committed to all its charters. The state shall embody these principles in all fields without exception.

2. In view of the circumstances that surrounded the signing of the 17 May 1983 agreement and in view of the international concomitants that could result from the continuation of the present situation, the conference with a consensus of opinion asks President Amin al-Jumayyil to carry out the necessary international measures and contacts to end the Israeli occupation and to ensure Lebanon's full and absolute sovereignty over all its territory and in all national domains.

3. Consolidation of the security committee so that it may supervise the prevalence of security, adopt the necessary measures, receive and examine complaints, and monitor the sound implementation of adopted decisions.

4. The reform projects in all domains that are prepared by the participants in the conference shall be submitted to the secretariat, which will gather, sort, and prepare them for discussion in the coming session of the conference in order to facilitate its work.

At the conclusion of its first round of sessions, the conference addressed its gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. It also addressed its thanks to the federal and local Swiss authorities for their good hospitality in the person of His Excellency Swiss President Pierre Aubert and for the efforts he made to facilitate the work of the conference.

The conference recorded its appreciation for the efforts by President Amin al-Jumayyil to promote the conference.

On his part, his excellency the president praised the responsible national spirit which the participants have displayed and which led the conference to adopt unified stands and decisions.

Finally, the conference decided to resume its meetings in Geneva on 14 November 1983.

Conference Committees Members Named

NC042044 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1945 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission member in Geneva — live]

[Excerpt] We learned a while ago that the [working] committees which will resume their work before noon tomorrow in Geneva comprise the following: Marwan Hamada and Khalid Junblatt representing Walid Junblatt; 'Ali 'Usayran and 'Adil Qansu representing [former] Speaker 'Adil 'Usayran; Jamil Kibbih and Muhammad al-Mashnuq representing [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam; George Sa'adah and Joseph Abu Khalil representing Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil; Marun Hilu representing [former] President Camille Sham'un; 'Umar Missayki representing [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami; 'Abdallah ar-Rasi and Ramiz al-Khazin representing [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah; and Antoine al-Ghusayn and Muhammad Shuqayr representing President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Birri 'Reservations' On Committees

NC042057 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2009 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission member in Geneva — live]

[Text] Perhaps one wonders at this point about Nabih Birri's representatives on the [working] committees. In fact, a short while ago I contacted Nabih Birri in his suite at the Inter-Continental Hotel. He informed me that he had expressed reservations about the matter of the committees and that he had refrained from naming his representatives to the committee.

Of course, this matter does not indicate any hindering of the conference's work. However, Birri, as he has informed us, prefers that matters be discussed before the conference.

At any rate, Birri has expressed reservations about the matter of the committees, and he has desisted from naming his representatives.

Salim Urges U.S. To Honor 'Commitments'

NC042006 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1644 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission member in Geneva — live]

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim is now meeting with U.S. Ambassador Richard Fairbanks. Minister Salim had earlier spoken to newsmen before his meeting with Fairbanks. Minister Salim said what is now happening in Lebanon is the outcome of the abnormal situation existing in Lebanon. This situation must end if the objective is peace for Lebanon and the Middle East. The following is a recording of Minister Salim's speech in English:

[Begin recording] This is one of the [words indistinct] the massacres that have resulted from the unusual situation existing in Lebanon. The unusual situation in Lebanon must end, if there is going to be a peace in Lebanon and in the rest of the Middle East. The occupation of Lebanon by the Israeli forces, the presence in Lebanon of Syrian and PLO forces — all of these have not contributed to peace, either in Lebanon or in the rest of the Middle East. It is the purpose of this conference here for Lebanese leaders to ensure the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and to permit the Lebanese people to live together in freedom, as they always lived in the past.

We regret all tragedies, we regret all deaths from all sides. Lebanon is the land of peace and democracy and it has been, unfortunately, exposed since the beginning of the seventies to the most horrendous crime, so much so that the image of peaceful, democratic Lebanon has been marred, and as now has been known as the land of death, destruction, and terrorism. This is not the image of Lebanon, it is not the image of the Lebanese. And, therefore, we call upon the international community, in particular on the United States and on the Multinational Force countries, to implement their commitments and to save Lebanon from the throes of the conflict in which it has been thrust.

Lebanon cannot by itself save itself from (?this) situation. This is an international and regional situation and that is why the powers have the final and the definitive word in this crisis. To expect the Lebanese leaders to finish a crisis of essentially regional and international (?tones), I am sorry to say, is unrealistic.

It is in this sense that the crisis in Lebanon is not at all internal, that the conflict in Lebanon is not at all civil. It is about time that the world understand what is going on in this fine, little democracy. It is an act of almost international terrorism, and an act of international conflict that has used Lebanon, simply because Lebanon is free and democratic. It is unfair that democracy should be permitted to be exploited like that, especially by the democratic countries, and especially by those who claim to be the defenders of freedom. [end recording]

VOL on Results of Dialogue Conference First Phase

NC061408 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] What will happen after the conclusion of the first phase of the Geneva Dialogue Conference? What after the conclusion of the first phase of the conference of hope and peace, as President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil coined it in his speech to the conferees in Geneva?

Informed sources have told the Voice of Lebanon that contacts were intensified today among the various parties, as was agreed at the conference's closing session. The contacts which began today centered on the results of the conference and on continuing the discussion of some of the subjects that were raised.

The Voice of Lebanon correspondent has learned that Jean 'Ubayd this morning contacted Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddan by telephone to review several subjects that were discussed during the conference, and that they continued the discussion of some stages within the framework of the conference results.

It has been learned that, as agreed, the line between Beirut and Damascus will be opened again this evening. It has also been learned that coordination committees will be formed to continue contacts with various sides on current subjects.

These contacts will be carried out on the basis of the government's decision to hold consultations with various dialogue leaders before convening the second session and in light of the results of the contacts which the president has been asked to make with the United States and European and Arab countries.

Informed sources have revealed to the Voice of Lebanon the most important results of the meeting that took place at noon yesterday at President Sulayman Franjiyah's headquarters in [word indistinct] in Switzerland when President al-Jumayyil, accompanied by Jean 'Ubayd, returned Franjiyah's visit.

These sources said that an agreement was reached between them to set aside the various (?aspects) of the relations in the previous phase, and to look forward to future better relations.

It has been learned that a complete understanding has been reached on everything related to the coming phase, including the foreign withdrawals, beginning with the withdrawal of the Israeli and other forces, the constitutional reforms, the necessary security arrangements to consolidate calm, contacts with Syria, and everything that is related to Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We have learned that an agreement has also been reached to continue on local, regional, and international levels the contacts and consultations on the issues that have been put forward, or that will be put forward in the future, and on which an agreement was reached during the conference on the main topics.

Parliamentary Group Upholds Agreement With Israel

NC041418 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1350 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch from Chamber of Deputies by correspondent Marun Hubayqah — live]

[Text] His excellency the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Kamil al-As'ad, made a statement at the conclusion of a meeting of the parliamentary group representatives, which he chaired today. Speaker al-As'ad announced that the conferees, that is, the members of the parliamentary body representing the various groups, maintain that it is imperative both to adhere to the 17 May agreement as a means of liberating the land of the south, and to refuse to hinder this agreement, except if an alternative is achieved that ensures liberation of the land from the Israeli occupation.

Furthermore, it has been decided to hold a comprehensive parliamentary meeting before noon next Monday to discuss this subject. However, the government will not be invited to attend this meeting because it has not participated in the Geneva conference and, consequently is not conversant with the minutes of this conference and with its implications.

Deputies 'Insist' on Implementing 17 May Accord

NC071341 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Dispatch by radio correspondent Marun Hubayqah from Chamber of Deputies — recorded]

[Text] Following the plenary parliamentary meeting which was chaired by Speaker Kamil al-As'ad at noon today in Mansur Palace and attended by 37 deputies, the following statement was issued:

The deputies who belong to the various factions and who met in the Chamber of Deputies at noon on Monday, 7 November 1983, at the invitation of Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and under his chairmanship, after deliberating on the general conditions in the country and the security situation in the various Lebanese areas, and dwelling in particular on the serious developments in the south and the measures which the Israeli forces have been taking, declare the following:

1. Call for an end to the bloody and destructive fighting in Tripoli and the north immediately.

2. Call for abidance by the cease-fire on all Lebanese territory.

3. Urgently demand an end to the suppressive measures in the south and the opening of all the roads to and from it.

4. Affirm the Chamber of Deputies' position of insistence on the implementation of the 17 May agreement and nondiscussion of its abrogation or freezing before a serious alternative becomes available to bring about the withdrawal of the Israeli forces, and warn of any attempt to push the homeland to an impasse which can perpetuate the Israeli occupation.

Walid Junblatt Assesses Results of Conference

JN042200 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Interview given by Lebanon's Walid Junblatt to Monte Carlo news director Antoine Nawfal in Geneva and carried within the "Panorama" program; date not specified —recorded]

[Text] [Antoine Nawfal] Mr Walid Junblatt, how do you assess the results of this conference and what are the most important results emerging from your conference in Geneva?

[Walid Junblatt] The most prominent result is that the Lebanese regime and some parties have begun to realize that the current U.S. policy, which imposed the known agreement on Lebanon, is not a sound policy and, therefore, had to be reconsidered. It has only caused partition, ruination, and civil war in Lebanon.

[Nawfal] In what direction was this reconsidered?

[Junblatt] Today, Lebanon has become a kind of a U.S. base in a certain context —Suq al-Gharb, the Multinational Force, and the agreement. I do not know if this trend is in Lebanon's interest, because we have entered a wider circle of conflict than we can handle. I believe that we have paid a price for this.

[Nawfal] You visited the president a short while ago. How do you describe this visit?

[Junblatt] I have always said that there are not personal differences between Walid Junblatt and Amin al-Jumayyil. However, there is a very long political file that had to be discussed in Geneva in order to attain a minimum level of accord.

[Nawfal] Will this political file stipulate the exchange of further visits?

[Junblatt] There are practical and security circumstances that prevent us from exchanging visits. We chose Geneva as a middle of the road place, and I believe that we will meet in the next 2 weeks.

[Nawfal] On the Lebanese level, has the conference finally removed the sensitivities and [word indistinct] that were submitted by some parties?

[Junblatt] No. This is because political accord has not yet been achieved. The political accord has to be achieved and entrenched on all levels, and then we can say to the Lebanese that the threat of civil war is over. Otherwise, if we say today that the causes of differences have been removed, that would untrue and unacceptable.

[Nawfal] What is the next step now?

[Junblatt] We are waiting to meet with Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil after he returns, principally from the United States.

[Nawfal] I would like you to give us your impression and opinion on the decision that was adopted on the 17 May agreement.

[Junblatt] I have previously said that this agreement exposed Lebanon to internal chaos and made it a platform for international, if not personal differences. This agreement cannot be the basis for liberating Lebanon or achieving its independence, sovereignty, or Arabism. We do not refuse to give Israel certain condition to guarantee the security of Galilee by adhering to the armistice agreement and developing this agreement through the presence and role of the UN forces as well as the local army —the principal arm in achieving peace. However, adhering to this agreement, which will not be implemented in light of the circumstances, would mean that Lebanon would be finished.

[Nawfal] Another point regarding the decision on the agreement: Does this agreement also stipulate the withdrawal of all the other forces from Lebanon?

[Junblatt] The decision was clear —liberating Lebanon from Israeli occupation. As for the other forces, every force has certain circumstances and therefore we cannot equate all the forces in Lebanon.

[Nawfal] Some circles this morning spoke about 14 November.

[Junblatt] In principle, this date was specified for a return to Geneva. However, the issue depends on Shaykh Amin's visit to the United States.

[Nawfal] If this visit is delayed, will that mean that the conference in Geneva will also be delayed?

[Junblatt] Of course, it might be delayed.

Junblatt Meets With Sham'un

NC050727 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un met with Walid Junblatt during a dinner meeting at the Perle Restuarant in Geneva last night. They discussed the mountain issue, particularly Dayr al-Qamar. In a press statement, Junblatt said: I have no personal dispute with President al-Jumayyil. Our dispute is purely political. Replying to a question, Junblatt said: I cannot tell the Lebanese that the war has ended. We have not agreed on the lengthy political dossier.

Junblatt To Visit Moscow 'Soon'

NC070825 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 5 Nov 83 p 14

[Text] Geneva (*AS-SAFIR*) — It has been learned that Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, will visit Moscow soon to meet with senior officials in the Soviet Union and to discuss the sitauation in Lebanon and the area. Junblatt is expected to leave today for several European capitals.

Elie Salim Returns From Bern Talks 5 Nov

NC051923 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1720 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Dispatch by radio correspondent Darwish 'Ammar from Beirut airport — live or recorded]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim returned to Beirut this evening on board a special plane from Switzerland following his participation in the talks held between President al-Jumayyil and Swiss officials in Bern. Also on the same flight were: Joseph Ghuraysati, the director general of the president's office; Faruq Jabr, the official spokesman of the National Dialogue Conference; Muhammad B'albaki, the chairman of the press syndicate; and the information delegation which covered the work of the conference. Foreign Minister Salim was welcomed at Beirut airport by senior Foreign Ministry officials.

Meets U.S., Soviet Envoys

NC062020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim this evening met with the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon and discussed the situation in the south.

Minister Salim earlier met with Yuriy Suslikov, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Lebanon, and discussed the results of the Geneva conference.

Islamic al-Jihad Member Quoted on Tyre Blast

NC041426 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1336 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Today's most outstanding incident was the heroic and bold operation that was carried out by the Lebanese National Resistance front in Tyre against the headquarters of the Zionist military and civilian governors. The latest reports affirm that General Amir Drori, the Israeli military governor and commander of the northern region, all officers of his command and about 200 soldiers, who were inside the buildings at the time of the explosion, were killed. The latest casualty count says 50 bodies and a number of wounded were removed from under the rubble of the military governor's headquarters. They have been taken to the Nahariyah and Haifa hospitals. Reports say that about 20 Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners were in the building at the time of the explosion, but their fate is not yet known.

The Zionist enemy accused Syria and the Palestinian resistance of implementing the operation. However, an unknown person telephoned the Voice of Arab Lebanon and said that he belongs to the Lebanese National Resistance front — the Islamic al-Jihad organization — and claimed that his organization is responsible for the operation. He said:

[Begin recording] I am an element of the Lebanese resistance front — the holy Islamic al-Jidad —. We announce our full responsibility for this morning's operation against the Israeli governor headquarters. Second, [we announce] the martyrdom of Muslim brother Muhammad. [end recording]

The spokesman for the Islamic al-Jihad organization warned the Geneva conference against failure to abrogate the 17 May agreement, saying that his organization will carry out other suicidal operations if the agreement is not abrogated.

Junblatt Denies Tyre Connection

JN041527 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] In Geneva, Walid Junblatt has stated that the Progressive Socialist Party is not connected with the Tyre operation. He added that there is no excuse for making Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh targets of Israeli retaliation because of this operation.

Syrian, Palestinian Losses Reported

NC041548 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Our correspondent reports that the Israeli air raids were launchedmainly against the Palestinian command positions, especially the command position of the PFLP-GC, where a large number of people were killed or wounded, including Ahmad Jibril's deputy. The Israeli air bombardment also destroyed the mountain operations room in Sawfar and the hotel area in Bhamdun, which is considered a military area for the Palestinian dissidents, the Syrians, and the Junblattites.

Our correspondent adds that the Israeli aricraft destroyed 12 130-mm artillery pieces, 18 Syrian T-52 and T-54 tanks, and 30 military vehicles. The final death toll is not yet known, although initial information indicates that 60 were killed and over 100 were wounded.

Our correspondent says that three Syrian officers were killed. The wounded were taken to Shtawrah where Syrian helicopters ferried them to Damascus.

Al-Wazzan Rejects Israeli Measures

NC042126 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Regarding the situation in the south and its suffering from the Israeli occupation, Tyre is experiencing severe tension as a result of the Israeli oppressive practices against the citizens in the wake of the explosion at the Israeli intelligence headquarters during which more than 30 Israeli soldiers and about 10 Lebanese citizens were killed. The Israeli authorities imposed a 3-day curfew in the city, isolated it from other areas in the south, and closed the crossing points to the south.

In this framework, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan affirmed in contacts made tonight with partiesconcerned his rejection of all measures closing the roads and all practices leading to isolating the south from other Lebanese areas. He noted that such measures, whether or not they are temporary, are rejected and must be immediately lifted.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan has followed up the situation in the south in light of the Israeli measures which followed the attack on the Israeli headquarters in Tyre. For this purpose he had contacts with His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, and with deputy Dr Nazih al-Bizri.

Protests Israeli Actions

NC051548 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today chaired a meeting of the internal security council at the government palace. The security situation, in light of the available information and the measures which could ensure security, particularly in the areas under the control of the legitimate forces, were discussed. Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus, the heads of the various forces and security units, and Beirut Governor Mitri an-Nammar attended the meeting. After the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said:

[Begin Al-Wazzan recording] We convened the internal security council today to study the security situation in various parts of the country, particularly after the successive events which took place in Beirut, the south, the north, and the mountain following the Israeli air attack. There is no doubt that such meetings are necessary to assess the security situation, to study the existing gaps, and to examine some measures.

The most important issue we discussed today was the issue of the south where the Israeli side is apparently insisting on closing the crossing point on the Al-Awwali bridge. Things became more serious after we learned that the Israelis have insisted on the evacuation of the government building in Sidon, which includes the governorate's offices and other official offices.

Contacts were held, and the Israelis have not indicated whether they will change their position or not. The Lebaense side insists on adhering to its sovereignty and on the presence of the various offices in the government building. We strongly protest against such measures, and we shall expand our contacts. The reactions I received from some popular, political, and religious leaders indicate there will be a serious development in this case.

Of course, we also examined the security situation in the north and followed the events there. We are making further efforts and contacts to stop the fighting which exhausts the capabilities of the Palestinians and greatly harms the Palestinian issue and our situation in Lebanon, since innocent people are being killed, houses are being destroyed, and people are becoming displaced. [end recording]

Shi'ite Blames Israel for Tyre Bombing

LD051004 Paris Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Syria declares that the Tyre attack is an action of resistence of the Lebanese against Israeli occupation. This is also the view of the South Lebanese Shi'ites leader Nabih Birri, in an interview in Geneva with (Mireille le Maresquer):

[Begin recording — Birri] The Israeli Government is responsible for it. I am not speaking of the action itself, I am speaking of the atmosphere, of the policy pursued by the Israeli leaders before, during, and after the Israeli invasion in Lebanon. All they want in reality is to maintain, to remain in southern Lebanon. [as heard] It is almost a year now since I said to the Israelis: Careful, if you want to remain in southern Lebanon you must choose between our territory and peace in the region. And here it is. This is not the first accident and, in my view, it will not be the last. [end recording]

Explosion at Israeli Military Building in Sidon

NC061834 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received the following: At 1945 today, an explosion took place near the Israeli military governor's headquarters in Sidon, followed by bursts of gunfire at the Israeli forces present outside the government building. Immediately, the sirens were sounded, and the Israelis blocked the roads and began combing the area. We shall provide you the details as soon as they are received.

Further Report

NC061918 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondent in the south reported a short while ago that an explosion took place at 1950 today at the headquarters of the Israeli military governor at Sidon's government building. The explosion was followed by intense fire from heavy machineguns in all directions by the Israeli soldiers who were stationed at the entrance to the government building. The correspondent said that the explosion probably resulted from a rocket. Immediately, alarms were sounded and the Israeli forces began combing the residential area adjacent to the government building.

Israelis Thwart Landing Operation

NC062000 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1950 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Two military operations were carried out against the Israeli forces in the south this evening. At 2130, armed men carried out a landing operation from a rubber boat near Az-Zahrani and fired RPG's and opened gunfire on an Israeli positions near Az-Zahrani. The Israeli forces (?pursued) the attackers and arrested four armed men. At around 2000, an explosion occurred near the Israeli military government's headquarters in Sidon, followed by bursts of gunfire at the Israeli forces around the building. The Israeli forces cut all approaches to the scene of explosion, fired flares and mounted a combing operation.

IDF Closes Southern Roads

NC070733 Beirut Domestic Serivce in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY reporter in Sidon indicates that the roads to and from the south are still closed by the Israeli forces which have reinforced their foot and motor patrols this morning in Sidon.

Strike Called for 8 Nov

NC070743 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Because of the recent Israeli measures in the south, particularly in Sidon, the spiritual and political bodies, trade unions, and the Sidon-Az-Zahrani municipal [workers] union issued a sttement last night declaring a general strike tomorrow and called upon all the Lebanese to participate in the strike and make tomorrow Lebanon's day in the south.

The situation in the south and the new Israeli measures were discussed for 2 hours last night by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and the U.S. ambassador in Beirut, Reginald Bartholemew. They discussed the new developments in the south in the wake of the blowing up of the Israeli military governorate in Tyre and the consequent stringent measures in the south and the closure of the crossing point.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan had asked the foreign minister earlier to hold diplomatic contacts with the U.S. side to bring pressure to bear on Israel to halt its recent measures.

Haddad Appeals Against Strike

NC070745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad today addressed an appeal to the southerners asking them not to respond to the call for a strike and demonstrations tomorrow. Sidon organizations met last night and called for staging a strike tomorrow in protest against the recent Israeli measures.

'Adlun National Guards Dissolved

NC071223 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1152 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] We have just been informed that the Israeli forces in southern Lebanon today decided to dissolve the national guards which they have set up in 'Adlun.

An-Nabatiyah Guard Chief Killed

NC070739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0725 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Our Sidon correspondent reports that armed men have assassinated Ahmad Sallum, chief of the National Guard in An-Nabatiyah, and that three others were wounded. The incident took place in Al-Bayyadah quarter in An-Nabatiyah where gunmen ambushed the chief of the National Guard who was driving his personal car with three passengers. He was showered with bullets and was killed immediately. The wounded were removed to An-Nabatiyah hospital. Immediately, the Israeli forces cordoned off Al-Bayyadah quarter, combed the area, and arrested several citizens. At this moment Israeli warplanes are overflying the southern area.

Boobytrapped Car Found Near Iranian Embassy

NC070556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0528 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified reporter in Voice of Lebanon editorial room -- live]

[Text] We have been able to obtain the following details: Shortly after midnight last night, the sound of exploding gunfire and anti-armor shells was heard in the vicinity of the Iranian Embassy in Al-Jnah area. Some 30 minutes later, similar explosions were heard. Immediately afterward, Lebanese Army patrols went to the area where they found a French jeep bearing number 615/323 parked near the Iranian Embassy. After a quick examination of the jeep, two timing devices were disconnected from the detonator of an explosive device. A short time later, a French engineering corps patrol came to the scene but it could not dismantle the device. A Lebanese military expert was called and he managed to dismantle part of the device.

In any case, our security reporter is following up the matter to determine the size of the explosive device which is said to be extremely large.

Explosion at Beirut Television Building 5 Nov

NC051220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1210 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received the following report:

According to the latest security information, the explosion that occurred outside the Lebanese television building in Tallat al-Khayyat has resulted in the martyrdom of one Lebanese Army soldier and the killing of two civilians. The information adds that an explosive device had been placed in a garbage can. The device exploded at approximately 1330 today. A military expert went to the scene of the explosion. Investigations are continuing there.

Al-Asad Cables Andropov on October Anniversary

JN061818 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1340 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 6 Nov (SANA) — On the anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in the Soviet Union, President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a cable of congratulations to Yuriy Andropov. The following is the text of the cable: On the occasion of the anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, I am pleased to send on behalf of the Syrian Arab people, in the name of the Arab Socialsit Ba'th Party command, and in my own name sincere congratulations and heartfelt greetings to you, to the CPSU, to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and to the friendly Soviet people.

This occasion has given me the chance to reiterate our confidence that the existing friendship and cooperation between our two countries which has greatly developed in the various fields and which has been strengthened by the Treaty of the Syrian-Soviet Friendship and Cooperation signed in 1980 has realized mutual interests for our two peoples and contributed to the promotion of the national and progressive forces' struggle in our region. Hoping you will accept our best wishes for good health and happiness to you and continued success for the Soviet people.

Soviet Friendship Society Celebrates Anniversary

JN070846 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] The Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society last night held a speech rally on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The rally was attended by Ahmad al-Husayn, member of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party Central Committee and deputy chairman of the party's regional organizations bureau; a number of the members of the National Progressive Front Central Command; Dr Ahmad Dirgham, vice-president of the Syrian-Soviet friendship society; a number of the socialist countries ambassadors; the charge of the USSR Embassy in Damascus; and the USSR Embassy staff.

Dirgham made a speech in which he noted the important role of the Great October Socialist Revolution in strengthening the progressive and socialist forces. he also noted the reactionary U.S. imperialist-zionist alliance which threatens world peace. This alliance is heightening its onslaught on our Arab homeland in order to impose its hegemony on it. He said: Our people will not be coerced, will not yeld, or be intimidated by mercenary fleets and soldiers. He added that struggler Syria, under the Ba'th party and its secretary general struggler, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, will not kneel, be humiliated, or forced to surrender. He affirmed that Syria; with its great party and national progressive front and supported by the Arab revolutionary groups and its real and sincere friends, foremost of which are the Great October Socialist Revolution grandchildren; will struggle against all types of domination, exploitation, and colonialism. There will be no life or future in Syria, as leader Al-Asad has said, except for progress and socialism, he added.

(Victor Buzavalyok), USSR charge in Damascus, made a speech in which he said that Syria is considered by the Soviet people and the world progressive peoples a symbol of Arab steadfastness against U.S.-Israeli plans. He affirmed that the Syrian people led by President Hafiz al-Asad, the prominent political figure in the national Arab liberation movement, are working continuously and persistantly to repel the Israeli aggression and foil its imperialist designs. He noted the U.S. threats against the Arab people in general and the Syrian people in particular and said that Washington and Tel Aviv are planning anew for a war against the Arabs with Syria as its objective because it is the main obstacle in front of Washington's colonialist arrogance and Tel Aviv's occupation caclulations. He also affirmed that the criminal designs against Syria will not be peddled without penalty and will be doomed to failure because the Syrian people are struggling and are supported by the Arab people and the socialist countries, foremost of which are the USSR and all who are concerned about peace and justice.

Khaddam Returns to Damascus; To Visit USSR

JN042226 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2215 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will pay a working visit to the USSR in the first half of November at the invitation of the USSR Government. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Damascus from Geneva this evening after representing Syria as an observer at the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference that was held in Geneva.

Karami, Junblatt Arrive in Damascus 5 Nov

JN052001 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit to Syria. 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs, received them at Damascus International Airport.

In a statement to SANA, Rashid Karami said that the mere convocation of the National Dialogue Conference was a step forward. He added that there was a sincere desire in the dialogue to return to national unity and soldiarity, because these are the strongest weapons with which the dangers posed to the Lebanese people can be confronted. Accordingly, he said, the first resolution that was issued emphasized Lebanon's Arab identity. The second resolution was related to Israel's unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon. President Amin al-Jumayyil was commissioned to hold the necessary international contacts in order to achieve this goal and eventually to achieve Lebanon's full sovereignty on its territory.

He indicated that the conference's next session will be held in principle on the 14th of this month. Regarding his current visit to Damascus, Karami said: After our return to Damascus, we will hold various contacts and consultations on all that has taken place in the conference. We will eventually evaluate the present stage and what this stage dictates to us concerning consultation and coordination.

Press on Lebanese Dialogue; U.S. Threats

JN041033 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 4 Nov (SANA) — In its editorial today, *AL-BA'TH* asserts that the United States which seeks the division of the Arab ranks coverges in its objectives, which are hostile to the Arabs, with the Zionist strategy which seeks the elimination of the Arab individual and his existence.

AL-BA'TH notes that the statements made by the U.S. and Zionist officials are filled with malice toward Syria and the Lebanese people who have confirmed their Arab identity and affiliation. The paper says that these statements included frank and open U.S. warnings which hint at blatant interference in the affairs of all the Arabs.

AL-BA'TH continues: As long as Syria calls for unifying objectives and destinies, it will remain very dangerous in the opinion of the United States and Israel. Therefore, the aggression agaisnt Syria exists, and the toppling of its progressive and unionist rule will remain one of the main objectives of the United States and its agents in the region.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Syria is ready for all possibilities and will remain the shield of the Arabs and the wall that will protect the Arab nation from the dangers of the conspirators.

In its column "Behind the NEWS," *TISHRIN* says: The decision adopted unanimously by the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference that Lebanon is of Arab affiuliation and identity requires that the conference cancel the Israeli-Lebanese agreement imposed by the Israeli occupation and U.S. pressure.

In its editorial, under the headline "The Cancellation of the Agreement is an Important Step on the Path of Accord," *TISHRIN* adds: The dialogue conference is required to rise to the standard of the historical responsibility, remove this shameful page from the history of fraternal Lebanon, and bypass all forms of U.S. pressure and Israeli threats.

TISHRIN asserts that Syria, which has not denied anything to Lebanon, will not stop helping Lebanon in evicting the Zionist invaders from its territory and in implementing Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 on the condition that the Lebanese Governmetn should be sincere in its Arab trend and should adhere to the Arab charters and principles.

TISHRIN concludes: The cancellation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement represents a big step on the path toward national accord, establishment of new Lebanon, and the successful struggle toward evicting the Israeli invaders.

Under the headline, "The United States and the Attempts to Destroy Lebanon," *ATH-THAWRAH* says: The decisions and directives issued by the Reagan administration these days concerning Lebanon confirm the U.S. intention to obstruct the national accord whose political battle is now raging in the Geneva conference.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: The United States is in fact planning to turn the Marines into occupation forces in the full sense of the world, to strike at Syria, to weaken its national and pan-Arab stances, and to deprive it of its strong and effective cards in Lebanon and the Middle East.

ATH-THAWRAH asserts that this is what Syria has realized and that it is preparing itself for a confrontation on all levels. Syria does not fear the U.S. and Israeli threats and it has the necessary means for self-defense.

AL-BA'TH on U.S., Israeli Pressures in Geneva

JN061003 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Current Stage Is More Delicate, Dangerous Than Some People Imagine," *AL-BA'TH* says: The discussions during the open and closed sessions of the Lebanese Dialogue Conference held in Geneva over the past few days have confirmed a number of facts. Foremost of these facts is that most Lebanese figures have affirmed that the only alternative open to Lebanon is to be unified in terms of its people and territory, free from all sorts of sectarian grudges and bigotry; and more importantly, to cleanse Lebanon of the Israelis, the Americans, and their enclaves, and give Lebanon its correct Arab role.

During discussions in the closed sessions in Geneva, a basic fact was confirmed; namely, that the success or nonsuccess of the dialogue is closely tied with the government's cancellation of the agreement of submission and its adopting the people's will, especially since this cancellation has become a demand of both the Lebanese and Arab masses because the agreement is a serious threat to the Arab nation's present and future.

Minutes of some of the sessions show that diametrically opposed views appeared during the discussions over the agreement of submission. Despite all that happened, there was a party which insisted that this agreement could not be canceled. In an open attempt to make this agreement a fait accompli, this party demanded a freeze on it and asked the conference to discuss issues that would, in effect, consecrate the U.S.-Zionist occupation of Lebanon and transform it into an advanced military base to threaten the security of the entire region. However, the nationalist side's awareness of the attempts to evade an issue that is the main entry for any Lebanese national reconciliation, has foiled the intentions of the colluding party and the direct and indirect Israeli and U.S. attempts to put pressure on the conference.

AL-BA'TH adds: Another fact was confirmed during the Geneva dialogue discussions; namely, that the U.S.-Zionist pressure transcended words to assume the form of practical action, so as to warn those who attempt to cancel the agreement. This was shown by Israel's bestial bombing of unarmed people in the areas where the nationalist Lebanese forces are stationed, and the U.S. planes' flights over the mountain and Ash-Shuf areas. It seems as though the United States and Israel were saying to the Lebanese nationalist forces: Either you accept the fait accompli imposed by the Zionist-U.S. invasion or face death and destruction.

In short, the moves of the partners in the plot prove one fact; namely, that the plotting forces will attempt, using various means, to wipe out the nationalist forces' victories which are in the interest of Lebanon, the Arab nation, and the Arab national and patriotic causes.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: Therefore, the coming stage will be more delicate and dangerous because the plots will escalate against the Lebanese nationalist forces, and against Syria in particular, because Syria is the lung by which these forces breathe. For this reason, the sincere Arab forces must be on a high level of responsibility because, as we have said, the next stage will be not only delicate and critical but also much more serious than what others imagine.

ATH-THAWRAH on U.S.-Israeli Threats Against Region

JN061110 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 6 Nov (SANA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* asserts that the U.S. and Israeli threats and the military preparations and feverish hostile activities that accompany them will obviously exacerbate tension in the region and in the world.

In its editorial today, *ATH-THAWRAH* adds: After setting foot in Lebanon on the pretext of protecting peace and the Multinational Forces, the United States is now working to develop this presence and turn it into a bridgehead for passing to the Arab region. To achieve this, the United States is moving its fleets and aircraft carriers not only toward the Lebanese coast, but also toward the Arab Gulf. This is proof that the Israeli and U.S. invasion of Lebanon was a link in a comprehensive hostile scheme the dimensions of which are being exposed through the daily events, the hostile practices, and the shout for a mad war. All this is proof that the hostile circles in Washington and Tel Aviv believe that the blatant imperialist force can coerce the Arab nation's will and turn it into a zone of influence to the United States and Israel.

ATH-THAWRAH says: These beliefs have brought the U.S. policy to an impasse and put in a bottleneck situation so that the United States is unable even to realize its own interests and how to maintain them. Seeking the hostility of the Arab nation will not maintain U.S. interests, but will endanger them, and looking at the situation in the region from the Israeli point of view has deprived the U.S. policy of its sound views and has made this policy biased in favor of the aggression and perhaps an expansion of it.

ATH-THAWRAH concludes: Proceeding from its commitment to the national and pan-Arab principles and objectives, Syria will continue its confrontation of the hostile schemes in defending Arab existence. In this stand, Syria has the initiative, because it has unlimited self-confidence and is supported by the Arab masses and the world's free and progressive forces.

Italian Foreign Minister Arrives 6 November

JN061811 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a 2-day visit to Syria.

He was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Confers With Khaddam

JN061856 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti this evening. They discussed the current political situation in the Middle East and bilateral relations between the two countries.

Appeals for 'Arafat's Safety

LD070018 Rome Domestic Service in Italian 2130 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The drama of Yasir 'Arafat's Palestinians encircled in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, by pro-Syrian men, by the soldiers of Damascus and by the Libyans, is continuing without respite. The situation in the Middle East will be examined in the talks that Foreign Minister Andreotti will hold in Damascus with the top people responsible for Syrian policy. During his meeting with the Syrian foreign minister, Andreotti issued an appeal for the safety of Yasir 'Arafat and the men loyal to him. A similar appeal has been made by Saudi King Fahd.

Direct Anti-'Arafat Action Denied

LD070308 Rome Domestic Service in Italian 2300 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The Palestinian problem is not going to be resolved with the elimination of PLO and its leaders. This was said by Italian Foreign Minister Andreotti to his Syrian colleague Khaddam, during their talks in Damascus today when they discussed the alarming developments of the Palestinian question. The Syrian foreign minister denied that Damascus is directly involved in military operations against 'Arafat and his followers. What is happening in Tripoli, in North Lebanon, is, according to Khaddam, an internal Palestinian question. The Syrian foreign minister did not want to express an opinion on the future of 'Arafat. Andreotti invited Syria to contribute in an active way both to the solution of the Palestinian crisis and to the more general crisis in the Middle East. The Syrian foreign minister then expressed his appreciation for the presence of the Italian military contingent in the Lebanon. Khaddam stressed to Abdreotti that Syria too would look with favor on a body of Italian observers on the Ash-Shuf. This point and all other questions connected with the present situation in the Lebanon and in the Middle East Andreotti will discuss in detail during the meeting which he will have tomorrow morning with Syrian President al-Asad.

Israeli Raid on Palestinian Positions Reported

JN041856 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1848 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received the following:

The SANA correspondent in Al-Biqa' has stated that the Israeli Air Force today carried out two air raids, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, against the PFLP-GC positions and the Fatah-Al-'Asifah forces' positions. The raids resulted in five casualties and the destruction of two tanks.

Military Source Denies Syrian Positions Hit

JN041833 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1817 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] In Damascus, a Syrian military spokesman has denied news agencies' reports that the Israeli warplanes shelled some Syrian positions in Lebanon. He said that none of the Syrian positions or areas in which our forces are located have been subjected to the Shelling by Israeli planes that took place today.

Paris Envoy Says Tyre Blast 'Resistance' Act

NC041616 Paris AFP in English 1559 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, November 4 (AFP) — The Syrian ambassador to Paris Yusuf Shakhur called today's bomb attack against the Israeli military headquarters in Tyre "an act of resistance in a country under foreign occupation". In an interview on the French national television channel TF1, he said he "would not be surprised if it was the pretext for an Israeli attack on Syria". He ruled out any connection between today's blast and the attack on the U.S. and French military headquarters in Beirut two weeks ago.

YAR Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus 5 Nov

JN052102 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2045 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 5 Nov (SANA) — YAR Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr arrived here this evening on a visit to Syria. He was welcomed at the airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Sees Al-Asad 6 Nov

JN061325 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] At 1100 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received YAR Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr. 'Abdallah Husayn Barakat, YAR ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Departs Damascus 6 Nov

JN061816 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The YAR foreign minister left Damascus this afternoon following a 2-day visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Defense Sources Deny Intention To Fight Syria

TA071619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Sources in the defense system stress that Israel has no intention of attacking Syria. These sources explained to our military correspondent Shemu'el Tal that the public callup exercise for recruiting reserves was planned a long time ago, and one reason Israel publicizes this in the media is in order not to cause concern in the Arab countries.

Reportage on Aftermath of Tyre Explosion

Al-Awwali Bridges Reopened

TA071501 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1450 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] The commander of the Northern Command, Major General Amir Drori, this afternoon authorized the reopening of the bridges on the Al-Awwali River for civilian passage from northern Lebanon to the south.

Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz goes on to report that in the last few hours, the IDF allowed a few Lebanese vehicles into southern Lebanon. The residents are undergoing careful examination before entering the IDF-controlled area.

Rescue Operation Complete

TA041625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Rescue and evacuation operations in Tyre have been completed. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that members of the Burial Society are now trying to identify the as yet unidentified bodies. Members of the International Red Cross are using Burial Society assistance to identify the Lebanese civilians killed. A 15-meter deep crater marks the site of the explosion.

Tyre Attack 'Expected'

TA041219 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1210 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Southern Lebanon, 4 Nov (ITIM) — The IDF had intelligence reports on the possibility that actions like those that were taken against the Americans in Beirut might happen again. That is why the IDF stepped up its security and readiness. Furthermore, comprehensive surveys were carried out in the buildings where the IDF troops stay, as the press reported earlier this week. The attack against the IDF soldiers in Tyre, as surprising as it was, was to be expected, and proof of this is the fact that the soldiers on guard shot at the truck loaded with explosives, thus preventing it from crashing into the front of the building and limiting the scope of the damage. This was said to the ITIM correspondent in the north by a senior officer serving in Tyre.

Commission of Inquiry

TA041720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] On instructions of the defense minister, the chief of staff has appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate all the circumstances and facts connected with the incident in Tyre. It is to submit its findings within 1 week. This was reported by the IDF spokesman. The chairman of the committee will be Major General Amnon Reshef and it will include members of the Border Police and the Shin Bet. The commission will consult technical experts.

'No Blunder'

TA060656 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The commission of inquiry appointed by the chief of staff to investigate the Tyre disaster decided no blunder was made; the IDF soldiers were given explicit security orders and did take steps to prevent terrorist attacks. The commission will interrogate personnel from all ranks, from the level of the general headquarters to the surviving soldiers. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports:

[Tal — live or recorded] The investigation of the Tyre disaster focuses now on trying to obtain an exact picture of the chain of events. At the same time, the whole system is being investigated, from the general headquarters to the unit attacked. The commission of inquiry will then present its conclusions and its recommendations and it is expected to do so even before the end of the week.

Although the investigation is not yet completed and conclusions have not yet been presented, the initial finding of the commission is that there was no blunder. The security orders were given and steps were taken. An armored troop carrier had blocked the entrance to the camp, but it was removed a few days ago and replaced with concrete blocks.

There was alertness as well. The soldier standing at the gate was aware of the possibility of a terrorist attack and in fact he fired hundreds of bullets from his machinegun.

What concerns the investigators now, and what they will try to find answers to, is how, despite the security arrangements, the system failed? It might turn out that the obstacles were not stationed properly; there might be a recommendation to put the security checkpoints in different places, and there might even be more far-reaching recommendations.

In any case, we learned that among other things the commission will also look at the broader aspects of the security precautions taken by the IDF in southern Lebanon. The commission will express its opinion about the circumstances of the IDF soldiers in this area, circumstances derived from the political policy that dictates IDF actions in southern Lebanon. We learned that there is a possibility the inquiry commission will also express an opinion on the Al-Awwali bridges, which were left open despite explicit recommendations by very senior security officials to close them. Sources in the IDF told us that closing the bridges would contradict the agreement with Lebanon; however, they noted that by the time we learn the agreement has been canceled in the reconciliation conference, or at best frozen, more booby-trapped cars could come through the bridges into southern Lebanon or even into Israel.

Arens Interview

TA041902 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1840 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Interview with Defense Minister Prof Moshe Arens by military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky and anchorman Mikha Limor — live in the studio]

[Text][Limor] Is the Air Force raid a direct response to the attack in Tyre?

[Arens] It is certainly a direct answer to it. We are dealing with a cruel, vicious, and ugly enemy, which is not acting sanely — at least not in the sense of rules that would apply to the enlightened cultured world. This is a bitter campaign, and today we lost dear victims and paid a heavy price. We will strike and break them.

[Shlonsky] Mr Minister, is there information as to who is responsible for the attack in Tyre?

[Arens] We know that within that area of Lebanon that is controlled by the Syrians there exists an entire ring of terrorist organizations of various types, a ring in which one helps the other, which operates under Syrian backing. It was one of these gangs that perpetrated the act today. At this stage we do not know the name of the people that did this.

[Shlonsky] Was there any special reason for the precise bombardment of Jibril's commands in Bhamdun and Sawfar?

[Arens] We struck objectives belonging to the terrorists in Lebanon; this has been our past strategy and will continue to be our future strategy.

[Limor] Mr Minister, according to reports that have reached here, as we reported earlier, Syrians were also hit. Did you take into account that Syrians, too, would be hurt by the Air Force raids?

[Arens] Right now we still do not know that this is the case as we do not have the final data. Perhaps, if there were Syrians in the terrorist commands, they may have been hurt, and they should know that in such cases they will be hurt.

[Shlonsky] You were at the site today, and we visited it as well. We saw that no gate had been placed there to prevent the entry of the car, and that other measures have likewise not been implemented in the area; had they been there, the car would not have been able to penetrate the compound. Are you sure everything that could have been done was actually implemented in the area?

[Arens] I cannot tell you this tonight. Precautionary measures were applied precisely this week, but as we saw they were not enough. We have appointed a commission to investigate the matter and determine whether everything that should have been done was really done, and most importantly, to draw the necessary lessons.

[Limor] Mr Minister, some Cabinet members are recommending — some even warmly and enthusiastically — closing the Al-Awwali bridges and possibly preventing the penetration of such cars. Will you now be prepared to accept this advice?

[Arens] It is not a panacea. Closing the bridges will help us gain control over the area, but at the same time it is clear that such a thing might agitate the local population which has ties with the north, and could conceivably create a situation in which the terrorist organizations will find it easier to enlist local people for operations against us.

[Shlonsky] Mr Minister, do you think that the price of our stay in southern Lebanon — such a heavy price — justifies the benefits that remaining in southern Lebanon gives Israel?

[Arens] We are not talking about profits or gains. The IDF in southern Lebanon, the defense establishment, and the Border Police are defending the Galilee and the civilian population of the Galilee.

[Limor] Thank you very much, Mr Defense Minister, and have a nice day.

[Arens] Happy Sabbath.

Arens Explains IDF Action

TA061508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that the IDF acted the day before yesterday, 4 November, in order to make it clear that Israel intends to react to terrorist actions against its soldiers. The terrorist organizations are still in various corners of Lebanon under Syrian aegis. Minister Arens said this in Beersheba at the funeral of Sergeant Dan Darom, one of those killed in the Tyre attack.

Speech to Knesset

TA071550 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1525 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Report from the Knesset by Gil'ad Mishori — recorded]

[Text] A few score of the Knesset members who were present in the hall rose for a moment of silence in memory of the Tyre disaster victims. Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor opened the session with a short speech, after which Defense Minister Moshe Arens took the podium and gave a short announcement on behalf of the government. Arens said that the IDF will stay in southern Lebanon as long as there is a danger that after its withdrawal the terrorist gangs will take over:

[Begin Arens recording] Whoever, like me, stood by the open graves yesterday and felt the soul-and heart-wrenching pain of mothers, fathers, and wives of the victims who fell on Friday cannot but search his soul time and again: What might be done, what should be done, what can be done, in order to put an end to this bloodshed.

However, whoever thinks that giving in to terrorism will bring about this result is wrong. And whoever thinks that the terrorist war against us focuses on our presence in southern Lebanon is wrong. This is terrorism based on blind, insane, and fanatical hatred. This is terrorism whose aims are unlimited. This terrorism tries to reach us in Lebanon and in the Galilee, in Tel Aviv, and in Jerusalem. Everywhere. There is only one answer: To strike these gangs, to strike them and subdue them. [end recording]

We should not only be united in our pain; we should also be united in our decisive path not to give in to the terrorism, the defense minister said.

Peres Comments

TA041615 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1530 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 4 Nov (ITIM) — Israel must catch and punish those who are responsible for the explosion in Lebanon, as must the United States and France, in order to combat terror and restore peace to the region. This was stated by Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres in an address before the Industrial and Commercial Club in Tel Aviv today.

Mr Peres further said that in his talk with U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger he had pointed out that the United States can live without Lebanon, but that there would be no peace or security in the region without the involvement of the United States. Still, such a statement does not relieve us of the need to seek a lasting solution for safeguarding our settlements in the north, and we are in fact doing just that.

Mr Peres recalled that in his talk with the prime minister on the formation of a national unity government he had contended that such a government should be formed. If the prime minister feels that the situation is really grave then the Labor Party is prepared to cooperate. The truth is that we see the situation as truly grave, from the political and economic aspect, and in such a grave state of affairs all forces ought to unite. We know that the people must believe in the government and believe in Israel's currency, but we do not accept the policy of Finance Minister Kohen-Orgad. In our opinion his policy is taking us in the wrong direction. He is following in Aridor's footsteps even though the situation has undergone a drastic change and the proposed cutbacks conform with coalition considerations and not the economic situation, he said.

Rabin Favors Lebanon Presence

TA060749 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres says the question of whether the Israeli presence in Lebanon is justified does not arise since it is required by the state's security needs. Peres, speaking to a meeting of party activists in Rehovot, said, however, that Israel could carry out unilaterally the clauses in its agreement with Lebanon aimed at ensuring the security of Galilee.

And Alignment Knesset Member Yitzhaq Rabin says Israeli forces must stay in Lebanon until security arrangements for Galilee have been worked out and Israel must not be deterred by terrorist acts in Lebanon. Speaking to party activists in Zefat, Rabin said no one abroad or at home should be misled into thinking there are disagreements in Israel about the Israel Army's presence in Lebanon.

Safety Orders Issued

TA041830 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1630 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Jerusalem, 4 Nov (ITIM) — Immediately following the explosion at U.S. Marine Headquarters in Beirut, the commanding officer of the Border Police, Commander Pinhas Shahar, issued new orders for guarding the two border police camps in Tyre and Sidon. According to these orders large cement blocks have been placed at the entrance to the two camps, forcing any vehicle approaching the camp to drive in a figure-eight path, and preventing it from moving rapidly. These blocks caused the slowing-down of the booby-trapped vehicle which penetrated the courtyard of the administration building in Tyre, and some see this as the reason that the explosion occurred in the courtyard. A further order implemented recently was the digging of trenches surrounding the two camps to prevent vehicles from entering anywhere but through the main gate.

New Security Arrangements

TA061336 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] IDF soldiers are making new security arrangements in the camps in Lebanon in the wake of the lessons learned from the attack in Tyre. Fences around the camps are being raised. Taller armored personnel carriers are stationed across the access roads leading to the IDF bases, and Engineering Corps units are placing concrete cubes at the entrances to the camps.

Casualty Toll

TA051809 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] This evening the IDF spokesman reported that 28 security force personnel were killed in yesterday's explosion in Tyre, not 29 as reported last night.

Sidon Administration Building Evacuated

TA051430 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The IDF has instructed administration officials in Lebanon to evacuate the administration building in Sidon and move to another building. This is one of the first lessons drawn from yesterday's attack in Tyre. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht was told that for security reasons the IDF had decided not to use those buildings that had formerly been used by Lebanese authorities. IDF representatives explained their decision to Lebanese Administration officials and the gendarmerie soldiers and suggested an alternative place to them. At noon these officials began transferring their belongings to another building in Sidon.

Shamir Makes Series of Speaking Appearances

Remarks in Yeroham

TA052107 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said the IDF is staying in Lebanon to guard Israel's security. We have no interest in staying in Lebanon and it is our desire to bring the army home. We will withdraw when we are sure that no more shells will be aimed at our settlements.

Yitzhaq Shamir said that in Geneva all elements wanted to destroy the agreement between Lebanon and Israel. The Syrians even threatened the Lebanese with the murder of their leaders if they did not cancel the agreement. However, Yitzhaq Shamir called on the Lebanese to keep their honor and their loyalty to the agreement. The agreement, he said, was more important to Lebanon than it was to us and they would remain loyal to it for their own benefit. The prime minister was speaking with Likud activists in Yeroham.

Speech in Dimona

TA060533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Report on speech by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to Likud activists in Dimona on 5 Nov — with portions recorded]

[Text] [Begin Shamir recording] There are elements in this area of the world that oppose any attempt at reconciliation and peace. And when a flicker of hope appears somewhere that peace is about to arrive, whether in Egypt or in Lebanon, then they all attack those flickers and try to extinguish them with rivers of blood. We have to rise with all our might against those attempts to undermine peace and stand by those who declare peace is their goal and who are motivated by security, which is their only hope. [end recording]

The prime minister spoke last night at a meeting of Likud activists in Dimona and also said that the Lebanese negotiated with us and signed an agreement in order to ensure Lebanon its independence and sovereignty and to ensure Israel's security.

[Begin Shamir recording] And today the Syrians are coming to the poor Lebanese, who are tired of bloodshed, with ultimatums and threats to murder their leaders, to murder their sons if they do not cancel this agreement. [end recording]

Visits Wounded in Haifa

TA061456 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1450 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] After visiting wounded Israeli soldiers at the Rambam Hospital in Haifa, the prime minister said that Israel would do everything possible to eliminate terror, to prevent our soldiers from coming to any harm, and to be able to pull the IDF out of Lebanon in the not so remote future, as soon as we know that after our departure from Lebanon there will be no attacks on the Galilee's population. Referring to the closing of the Al-Awwali bridges, the prime minister added that this was a complex problem, and the Cabinet would discuss the issue in the next few days.

Remarks to Zefat Arabs

TA061757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] This evening, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir spoke in Zefat about the Tyre disaster. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht has brought us some of his remarks:

[Hecht — live, in studio] Yitzhaq Shamir called upon the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el to take a good look at what is happening right now in Tripoli. Look at those you pinned your hopes on for so many years. Since we expelled the PLO from southern Lebanon, the terrorists are now turning their lust for murder on each other. It is hard for us to understand, Shamir said, how members of one people can murder each other, but we are not surprised, the prime minister said, and we do not regret it. We only hope, he told the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, that you know how to learn the right lessons from these events.

[Begin Shamir recording] The Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, since the beginning of the century, have been going from failure to failure because they followed the murderers, from the days of the Mufti [of Jerusalem prior to and during World War II] to the time of 'Arafat. They should learn from the events in Tripoli that they have only one path: the path of peace and coexistence with Israel, the path we have marked out. Let them turn back from their path and announce to the world: The PLO has disappointed us; the PLO is bringing catastrophes down upon us, endless catastrophes. We extend our hands to peace. Let them call to the kings and leaders of the Arab world: Sit down at the negotiating table with Israel. There is no other path to peace in Eretz Yisra'el and the Middle East. [end recording]

[Hecht] Yitzhaq Shamir called upon President al-Jumayyil not to cancel the agreement with Israel, despite the pressures at the latest Geneva conference. The issue is composed of two elements, Shamir said: Israel's security and Lebanon's sovereignty. We know how to look after our security, the prime minister concluded.

Warns Al-Jumayyil

TA070600 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir warned the Al-Jumayyil government that the cancellation of the agreement signed with Israel will lead the Lebanese people to the bitter and tragic end of slavery and murder under Syrian rule. Israel, Shamir said, is the only element that can guarantee Lebanon sovereignty over the south of that country. Mr Shamir was speaking at an election rally in Qiryat Shemona yesterday and our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports from there:

[Begin recording] All enemies to peace in the region have enlisted in order to tear apart the agreement signed by Israel and Lebanon, the prime minister said. Yitzhaq Shamir reminded the Lebanese Government that it signed this agreement of its own free will. You fought over every word and letter in the accord, he said, adding that Lebanon conducted negotiations with Israel as an independent country. Shamir addressed the Lebanese saying: If you cancel the agreement, you will always live under the horror of Syrian terror.

[Shamir] This agreement serves your interests more than Israel's. Israel will find a way to defend its border. As one of Israel's great leaders, Menahem Begin, promised once, there will be no more Katyushas falling on Qiryat Shemona and Israel will abide by and keep this promise, regardless of the existence or nonexistence of an agreement. However, you — who will guarantee Lebanon's sovereignty over the southern part of the country? You have no better partner to accords, to coexistence than the State of Israel. If you surrender to the enemies of peace, you will face the bitter and tragic end of slavery, murder, and a miserable life.

[Hecht] Israel's hand is extended in peace, Shamir concluded. We do not want to occupy a single inch of Lebanese territory, he said, adding that Israel will get out of Lebanon completely when its security is guaranteed. However, all the Middle Eastern peoples should know, the prime minister warned, that if we are provoked and fought against, the hand extended in peace will turn into an iron fist that will strike at terrorism to the very bitter end. [end recording]

Cabinet Discusses Security Policy in Lebanon

TA061332 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The security policy in Lebanon in the wake of the attack in Tyre was discussed this morning at the Cabinet's weekly session. The chief of staff, the Air Force commander, and the head of the Intelligence Branch reviewed the attack and the Air Force operation. At the beginning of the meeting, the ministers stood at attention to honor the memory of the victims, and the prime minister sent condolences to the families of the dead soldiers and wishes for recovery to the wounded.

Shamir, Arens To U.S.

TA071011 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Nov 83 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Tuvya Mendelson]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens will visit the United States next month in the framework of what was described by political sources in Jerusalem as "closer bilateral cooperation." At yesterday's Cabinet session, Shamir said he intends to visit Washington in the near future but that the exact date had not yet been set, although it was understood that the visit would take place by the end of this year.

At the Cabinet session, Shamir reported on the talks held in Jerusalem with U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger. It was noted in Jerusalem last night that the United States was apparently conducting a reassessment of its policy in the region. The line emerging now is increased bilateral cooperation. The trip by the prime minister and the defense minister to Washington is designed to continue the dialogue. In the United States Arens will discuss the renewal of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation.

These reports about increased cooperation have been coupled with reports from Geneva that the United States would not be opposed to freezing the agreement between Israel and Lebanon if an arrangement is found among the sects and warring factions in Lebanon. In this context, political sources noted the remarks made by Eagleburger in Israel that the United States wants to find an arrangement that would include the Syrians. Nevertheless, political sources in Jerusalem noted that "the U.S. position is not to freeze the agreement between Israel and Lebanon."

Interview With Eagleburger

TA060803 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Interview with U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger by Dan Eshel on 6 November, place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] [Eshel] The need for an open dialogue between the two countries was brought up with the under secretary in all his talks here. Eagleburger told us that there is no doubt about the close bilateral relations and the United States is firm in its stand to continue and strengthen these relations.

[Eagleburger — in English] In sum, what I would have to say is I go away from Israel strengthened in my conviction that an intimate, close relationship between our two countries is vital for the security of the United States and vital for the security of Israel.

[Eshel — translates the above and continues] Israel is a democratic country, Eagleburger adds, and there are few like it in theworld in general and in this area in particular. I was deeply impressed by the courage with which the people in Israel fight fortheir independence, for their security, and for the existence of democracy in this country.

Kimche in Geneva for Reconciliation Conference

TA041912 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Israeli sources in Geneva stated that Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche arrived in Geneva today. No other details were reported and correspondents say they have no knowledge of whether Kimche met with Lebanese officials in town for the reconciliation conference.

Syrian Pressure 'Rebuffed'

TA051221 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche has said that Syria is trying to pressure the participants in the Lebanese reconciliation conference to abrogate the accord with Israel. He welcomed the fact that the participants of the conference rebuffed the Syrian pressure and explained that if the agreement should be revoked, this would place a big question mark in the process of Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and hamper the Middle East peace process. He came to Geneva at the height of the Lebanese reconciliation conference's meeting and was talking to our correspondent David Witzthum.

Warning to Syria

TA051224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche said that Israel made it clear to Syria yesterday that we will react to any act of aggression by way of the Air Force raid. Syria misconstrued the situation, believing that Israel was preoccupied with domestic affairs and unable to respond to the terrorist acts against it. Kimche said we have intelligence information attesting to Syria's responsibility for the terrorist acts in Lebanon, including the attack in Tyre and the explosions at the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and the French troops in Beirut.

Review of Conference

TA070728 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Nov 83 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] The first round of Lebanese "national reconciliation" talks in Geneva ended fairly well from Israel's point of view.

The May 17 Lebanon-Israel agreement is still intact despite strenuous Syrian efforts to have it abrogated, government sources noted after yesterday's Cabinet meeting in Jerusalem. They added that Syria's desire to replace Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan with a more malleable politician was also thwarted. "Not a bad balance sheet so far," the Israeli sources said. They cautioned, though, that Lebanese politics are notoriously difficult to predict. The second round of the Geneva talks could yet deal a mortal blow to the May 17 agreement.

The first round of talks ended at the weekend with the conference mandating President Amin al-Jumayyil to launch a new diplomatic effort to bring about Israeli withdrawal. The president is also to negotiate "on international levels to assure the total and absolute sovereignty of Lebanon over its entire territory." Syrian efforts, through Damascus-backed Lebanese factions, to have the May 17 agreement abrogated failed against the solid resistance of Al-Jumayyil and some of the pro-government factions. A subsequent move to declare the agreement frozen was discarded in favour of a more vague formula empowering Al-Jumayyil to negotiate on Lebanon's behalf and report back to another round of the talks scheduled for mid-November.

The Israeli sources said that this mandate to Al-Jumayyil meant that the president had emerged from the conference with his standing enhanced. The Syrian-backed opposition factions had hoped for a diametrically opposite outcome. Israel had no formal status at the conference, but lobbied intensively at Geneva. At first veteran "Lebanon hand" Yitzhaq Li'or reinforced the Israeli legation to the UN agencies, and later Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche flew out to head the lobbying effort. Israeli sources said yesterday the lines had not been drawn between Christians and Moslems, with the former supporting the May 17 agreement and the latter opposing it. The factional breakdown had been much more complex, with both Shi'ites and Druze steering a careful course between Lebanese government and opposition, and between Israel and Syria.

Independent observers at Geneva agreed with the Israeli assessment of the conference so far. They warned that any American military action in Lebanon (a large U.S. naval task force is reportedly in the Mediterranean steaming eastwards) would upset the balance and jeopardize the resumption of the conference.

UN Observers in Golan Predict War With Syria

TA070930 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Nov 83 pp 1, 15

[Excerpt] The *MA'ARIV* correspondent has learned about what is happening on the Syrian side of the border from an Israeli who spent the weekend with UNDOF [expansion not given] observers stationed on the Golan Heights. According to him, observers arriving in Israel after having conducted a patrol on the Syrian side told him: "There will be a war between Israel and Syria."

During a routine "patrol" from the Lebanese to the Jordanian border, the observers noticed that Syrian soldiers were clearing minefields. The UN soldiers interpreted this as aimed at making way for tanks and troops in preparation for a war against Israel. A UNDOF soldier recounted that he had witnessed an incidentin which a Syrian soldier refused to go into a minefield out of fear and was thereupon shot to death by a Syrian officer. The UN soldiers said that along dozens of kilometers along the border they spotted Russian soldiers in uniform who were supervising tanks going into underground bunkers or were driving them in themselves. According to this eyewitness report, many Russian soldiers "walking around with maps" can be seen on the Syrian side.

Reportage on Khartoum Meeting of Foreign Ministers

Foreign Ministers Resume Meeting

JN031525 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Nov (SUNA) — The Zairian, Central African, Ugandan, Egyptian, and Sudanese foreign ministers resumed their meeting here this morning. They discussed the topics included in their agenda, approved the recommendations that will be included in their final statement, and referred these recommendations to the drafting committees. The foreign ministers agreed to hold their meetings periodically in one of the capitals of the states participating (words indistinct) in order to bolster cooperation between their states in the economic, technical, and cultural spheres so as to exploit the resources of their states in the best manner. The five African ministers will hold their final work session this evening. They will fix the dates and venues of their periodic sessions. The final statement will also be issued after the final session.

At-Tayyib Addresses Ministers

JN031507 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Nov (SUNA) — First Vice President Staff Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib today received the foreign ministers of the five African countries that are participating in the current Khartoum meeting. Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak said that the first vice president affirmed to the five ministers that their meeting is not an alliance against anybody. He told them that their meeting is open for any state that has common borders with one of the five states and wishes to join them. Any such state, he added, can join them at any time. At-Tayyib also told them that this meeting, which is held in accordance with resolutions passed at the Lagos economic summit meeting, is aimed to promote and strengthen the various fields of cooperation among the neighboring African states, particularly in the field of transport and communications through their common borders. The first vice president thanked the ministers for choosing Khartoum as a venue for their meeting and wished them success in their mission.

Ministers' Conference Final Statement

NC041621 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 4 Nov (MENA) — The foreign ministers of the five African states' conference, that ended its work in Khartoum last night, called on the PLO to settle its internal differences and unify its ranks to attain the aspirations of the Palestinian people. The final statement, which was issued in the capitals of Sudan, Egypt, Central Africa, Uganda, and Zaire, called for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the aggressive forces from Lebanon in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509. It also affirmed support for the Lebanese Government in its endeavor to affirm its sovereignty over Lebanese territory. The conference called on Iraq and Iran to accept a cease-fire and to resort to negotiations for resolving their disputes. Concerning the Saharan problem, the conference called on the parties concerned to act to attain an agreement that ensures an immediate cease-fire and the holding of a referendum.

The conference denounced the flagrant Libyan military aggression against Chad and the continued Libyan occupation of parts of Chadian territory. The conference affirms its support for the legal government in Chad under President Hissein Habre and for the steps taken by the Chadian Government to achieve national reconciliation and maintain the sovereignty and territorial unity of Chad.

The conference also strongly denounced the racist policy in South Africa. The following is text of the final statement issued by the conference:

At the invitation of the foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, the foreign ministers of the Central African Republic, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Uganda, the Republic of Zaire, and the Republic of Sudan met in Khartoum during the period 2-4 November 1983. The aim of the conference was to give the participants the chance to exchange views, information, and experience in all areas of common interest, to discuss the best ways to achieve stability and prosperity for the peoples of the five states, and to strengthen regional cooperation among these states in accordance with the plan of action approved by the Lagos African summit.

In an atmosphere permeated with a spirit of cordiality and friendship, the conference discussed the ways and means for promoting this cooperation. From this standpoint, the conference affirmed the importance of bolstering relations among the five states.

The conference particularly affirmed the great importance of developing cooperation among these states in the areas of administration, transport, communications, border security,and in the handling of refugee affairs. The conference decided that it is possible to invite other states from the area that have with the conference members common interests and concerns to attend future conference meetings. The conference blessed the efforts made by Sudan and Egypt within the framework of the integration charter because these efforts are in line with the Lagos plan of action and because they serve as an example for a successful regional cooperation and for the achievement of socioeconomic development. The conferees reviewed viewpoints and stands on African and international issues. The conference affirmed the five states' full commitment to the UN Charter, the OAU Charter, and the principles of nonalignment.

The conference noted with extreme concern the continuing deterioration in the situation in South Africa resulting from the racist regime's continued practicing of apartheid, its continuous aggression against the African confrontation states, and its policy aimed at destabilizing these states.

The conference strongly condemns South Africa's policies. Regarding the Namibia issue, the conference is convinced that the Western Liaison Group still bears special responsibility toward the international community to take action to achieve Namibia's independence according to Security Council Resolution No 435. In this respect, the conference calls on the liaison group to exert maximum pressure on South Africa to ensure urgent and full implementation of Security Council Resolution No 435 and other pertinent UN resolutions.

The conference asserts its deep concern over the serious conditions which the Republic of Chad is experiencing. It strongly condemns the flagrant military aggression Libya is launching against Chad and the continued Libyan occupation of parts of Chadian territory. The conference expresses its support for the legitimate government in Chad under the leadership of President Hissein Habre. The conference particularly supports the steps being taken by the Chadian Government to achieve national reconciliation and to preserve Chad's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In this respect, the conference praises the support given by Zaire to the Chadian Government to help it in its courageous struggle to repulse aggression and exercise its sovereignty over Chadian soil — assistance that was given at the appropriate time.

Regarding the Western Sahara issue, the conference is convinced that the OAU framework remains the best framework to tackle this problem. Accordingly, the conference appeals to the parties concerned to act to reach an agreement securing the task entrusted to it by resolutions from the 18th and 19th African summit conferences held in Nairobi in 1981 and Addis Ababa in 1983, in order to quickly achieve a cease-fire and hold a referendum.

Regarding the Palestinian issue, the conference emphasizes that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the conflict in the Middle East. From this premise, the conference stresses its support for the Palestinian people's just struggle under the PLO leadership to exercise their basic legitimate rights, including their rights to establish an independent sovereign state in accordance with the UN resolutions. The conference appeals to the PLO to settle its internal differences and to close and unify its ranks in order to achieve the Palestinian people's aspirations.

The conference calls for the urgent and unconditional withdrawal of the aggressive forces from Lebanon according to Security Council Resolutions Nos 508 and 509. The conference stresses its support for the Lebanese Government in its efforts to emphasize its sovereignty over Lebanese territory and to achieve the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. In addition, the conference expresses its hope that the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference will succeed and lay the foundations for permanent peace and stability in Lebanon. The conference views with deep regret the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war despite the international community's efforts to end the conflict. The conference also greatly regrets the heavy human and material losses resulting from this war. It appeals to both parties to accept a cease-fire and act to solve the conflict through negotiations. The conference has agreed to convene periodically and to convene a second meeting in Kinshasa in August 1984. The conference also approved the possibility of holding emergency meetings whenever conditions so dictate. It expresses sincere thanks and appreciation to the Sudanese Government and people for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded the delegations in Khartoum.

Sudanese, Senegalese Party Officials Meet

JN031750 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum Nov, 3 (SUNA) —First Secretary of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) Badr ad-Din Sulayman today received the secretary of external relations in the Senegalese Socialist Party and the head of the party to the general council meetings of the African Socialist Parties League. Viewpoints on the relations between the two political organizations and means of boosting them were exchanged during the meeting.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Interviewed By French TV

LD070917 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 06 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN Party gave a press interview to the French TV Antenne 2 channel. In this interview, the brother president reviewed the various issues facing the two countries. On the circumstances of the visit, President Chadli Bendjedid said: I believe that the present circumstance is more suitable thanks to the joint political will of the two countries to fold the pages of the past and turn a new page, characterized by fruitful cooperation and the interests of the two countries and will of the two peoples and the results, as you see, confirm this sincere desire of both sides. Concerning the search for solutions to the existing problems, the brother president said: Indeed, there were many problems many of which could have been avoided or solved had the sincere desire existed. I can say today that thanks to the intention and efforts carried out in the two countries, it has been possible to confront all the problems.

Of course there are many problems for which it was possible to find solutions, and there are others which are currently being addressed. The brother president says we referred to every problem which can possibly obstruct the efforts made by the two countries for the consolidation of relations of fruitful cooperation. Mr President, is it possible to consider your visit to France a sign of total and final reconciliation between Algeria and France? The president answers: I prefer to say that we have reached, after a long time wasted by the two countries, the grasping of the inevitability of the relations between Algeria and France and this grasping in itself is what enabled us to overcome the problems, no matter how large they were. Thus I can say today that a new page in the field of cooperation has been turned between the two countries and on a clear basis which includes all fields. I said at the outset that we referred to all the problems and agreed on general formulas for their solutions. There are issues which are no longer raised, that are no longer problems, and there are tangential issues which I do not call problems.

What is important, says the brother president, is that we agreed on the method of facing the problems and the ways to solve them. I hope it is clear that there is a difference between agreement on confronting the problem or solving it, and the method of solution itself, on which the views may not coincide. Thus I say we agreed on the solution to the majority of the problems, and there are other issues under study at the level of the joint commission.

The French journalist asked in his interview with President Chadli Bendjedid how he evaluated the presence of the Multinational Forces in Lebanon. The brother president answered: If these forces in Lebanon work within the framework of UN Charter and resolutions and maintain the unity of the Lebanese rank and treat all Lebanese equally their presence [words indistinct]. President Chadli Bendjedid says that the present situation in Lebanon expresses the political failure of the policy which is trying to treat the problem separately from the essential problem, that is the problem of the Middle East as a whole. The problem of Lebanon is part of this problem and separatist solutions only complicate matters and do not constitute solutions. The opinion belongs to the sons of Lebanon themselves, and I am not ready to pass judgment on the Multinational Force. Yet I hope that the role of this forces will be within the framework of respecting the unity of the rank in relation to all the Lebanese.

Bendjedid in Europe on Official Visits

For coverage of President Chadli Bendjedid's visit to France as head of a delegation including Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, and his visit to Italy on Thursday, 10 November, see the France and Italy sections of the Western Europe DAILY REPORT beginning on 7 November and subsequent issues.

DFLP Leader Hawatimah Arrives in Algiers

LD051502 Algiers APS in English 1004 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Algiers, 05/11/83 (APS) — Naif Hawatimah leader of the Democratic Front for Palestine Liberation arrived here, for talks with Algerian officials. He was greeted at the airport by Slimane Hoffmann CC member head of FLN Commission for External Relations.

ASH-SHA'B Criticizes Grenada Invasion

PM041139 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 26 Oct 83 p 1

[Editorial: "The Recurring Danger"]

[Text] The island of Grenada, that small country which recently captured the headlines with its revolutionary experiment, has been subjected to a flagrant U.S. invasion aimed at aborting that experiment. The strange thing is that, as their forces and sophisticated weapons were attacking that small island, the invasion commanders were not ashamed to claim that the purpose of the offensive was to "restore democracy" to the island as if it were a U.S. state, not an independent and sovereign country. Where is this democracy? Does democracy mean letting the people of the island determine their own future without pressure of interference or does it mean attacking that country and killing its people? It seems that their interpretation of democracy — an interpretation they want to impose on others by force — is quite different from the interpretation of nations which aspire to freedom.

This has always been the way of imperialism, but what happened in Grenada is considered a serious escalation of the policy of intervention which world imperialism regards as its unquestionable right. It was on this basis that imperialism intervened in Lebanon and invaded Grenada. Who knows? They may use the same pretext in the future in the Gulf or against the Nicaraguan revolution or Cuba. Anything is possible now.

This "protection of democracy" pretext reminds us of the "promotion of civilization" pretext used by imperialism in the old days to invade Third World countries, plunder their wealth, and oppress their peoples. The two pretexts are one and the same thing. In the old imperialist logic peaceful nations were "savages" and "beasts" who needed to be civilized. Today these nations are accused of being "undemocratic" and must be taught democracy. The aim in both cases is to control the people's will and destiny. History is repeating itself indeed. Are we seeing a new era of "imperialist conquests" under the same old cover? The pretext which Washington used to invade Grenada — used so frequently against people simply because they expressed their own will — confirms that although imperialism had left most Third World countries, it still dreams of returning in any form and has not abandoned the policy of control and hegemony. That is why the current invasion of Grenada may be repeated in any African, Latin american, or asian country which dares to express a will not in harmony with imperialist interests.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Asks King Fahd To Postpone Summit

LD051406 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] JANA has learned that within the framework of contacts and consultations between the brother commander of the revolution and King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the king of Saudi Arabia, the brother commander has asked King Fahd to postpone the call for the forthcoming Arab summit conference in Riyadh until after the Arab situation becomes more clear, to avoid failure of the conference and to insure that it results in decisive fateful decisions that can face up to the collapse and deterioation the Arab world is witnessing as a result of the ferocious crusading offensive.

Talks With Czechoslovakia Begin in Tripoli

LD061609 Tripoli JANA in English 1503 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, Safar 1, November 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The joint Libyan Arab-Czechoslovak committee started its meetings in Tripoli this morning to discuss cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Czechoslovakia in all fields. This morning's meeting was attended by the General People's Committee secretary of marine transport and communications and on the Czechoslovak side by the Minister of Foreign Trade Bohumil Urban. Discussions during the meeting centered on methods of bolstering bilateral cooperation. Agreement was also reached on the formation of three technical subcommittees to discuss bilateral cooperation in commerce and cable and wireless communications.

MAURITANIA

Mali's Moussa Traore Arrives in Nouakchott

AB041655 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Nouakchott this morning gave a popular and warm welcome to General Moussa Traore, president of Mali. The Malian head of state, who is paying a 24-hour working and friendly visit to our country, was met upon arrival by Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state; Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, prime minister and minister of national defense; Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; and Captain [name indistinct], governor of the Nouakchott District.

The two heads of state listened to the national anthems of both countries, inspected a detachment of the National Army which was there to pay tribute, and greeted members of the CMSN, the government, other top government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, and members of the Malian community. Afterward the Malian head of state, Gen Moussa Traore, spoke to the national press at the airport VIP lounge.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr President, we welcome you first of all to your second country, Mauritania. Second, we would like to know the reasons for your visit, and the few issues you will discuss with President Khouna Ould Haydala.

[Traore] I would like first of all to thank my brother and friend, President Khouna Ould Haydala, his government, and the people of Nouakchott for the warm and brotherly welcome they give me each time I set foot on this African soil of Mauritania. As you are aware, my Mauritanian brothers and I have decided to exchange our opinions on certain issues and to this end we have decided to visit each other periodically. Not long ago, I received my brother and friend, President Khouna Ould Haydala, so I have come to return his visit. During my visit to Nouakchott, we will hold talks on international, African, and bilateral issues, in particular. I must say immediately that concerning bilateral relations between Mauritania and Mali, they are excellent because they cannot be otherwise. What I ardently desire is the raising of the level of economic cooperation to the level of political cooperation. Although we are going through a period of crisis, there is a need to strengthen cooperation in these fields. These are therefore the few issues that we will discuss during my visit to Nouakchott. [end recording]

Signs Communique, Leaves

AB060915 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] General Moussa Traore, president of the Republic of Mali, left Nouakchott yesterday morning at the end of a 1-day friendly and working visit. The Malian president was seen off by Lieutenant Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the CMSN and head of state. The final communique that was signed yesterday morning by the two heads of state at the presidential palace reasserts the desire of the two parties to strengthen bilateral cooperation and expresses their concern over the conflicts in some areas of the continent.

During his stay in Nouakchott, the Malian head of state held long private talks with Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the CMSN and head of state. The delegations accompanying them also held a working session. The discussions focused on bilateral cooperation, mainly in the economic sector. It is undoubtedly within this context that the Malian president visited the installations of the Mauritanian [words indistinct] company, a company which exports its products to the markets of the West African community's member states and which would like to expand its operations with Mali where its products are already on the market.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Speaks; Bouabid Asked To Resign

LD060016 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2117 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Speech to the nation by King Hassan II on 5 November anniversary of the 'Green March' into the Sahara — live]

[Excerpts] Praise be to God and prayers and peace to our master, the messenger of God, and his descendents and companions. My dear people. For a while, about 5 weeks [words indistinct] I have come back to our country today, thanks to God, in good health and well-being. I have come back so that we can all celebrate, as we have in the past, the anniversary of the Green March, that magnificent march by which we recovered the Sahara.

The period I spent abroad was divided into two parts: The first was [word indistinct] for rest, and the second part for work for [words indistinct] your needs or improve your future, or consolidate your position among states. Among any first activities when I arrived in New York, was to have lunch with my close friend U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Again I sensed in him the friendship based on openness that links me with him. Indeed, so far not all our viewpoints have been identical to those of President Reagan or of his government. However, he has and we have always been viewed with respect, appreciation, and consideration that which would bring viewpoints closer in [word indistinct] spheres, especially where it concerns the Middle East issue and your issue. The important thing is that I have always sensed in the man a genuine will [words indistinct] that could establish peace in that region quickly, honorably and permanently.

We cannot talk about the Middle East problem without bowing to [words indistinct] before the Palestinian victims who are dying every day in Lebanon, those who are the victims of internal rift and differences. [words indistinct] I must say that what is happening now in Tripoli in particular does not only harm the Palestinians, but harms the whole Arab community; damage which we cannot evaluate or know its extent now because what is happening in Lebanon has made us lose our credibility in the world.

Again, I do not want to act as judge or referee. I am an observer, but not an impartial observer. I am an emotional observer, a mainly [word indistinct] observer, an observer whose (?heart) is full of wounds. I shall say to our Palestinian brothers who have been (?tempted) by the devil, [words indistinct] I shall say to them (?return to your senses) for your own interest firstly and for the (?sake) of Arabs secondly [words indistinct] When I say this, I am saying it while I am very bewildered [words indistinct] I ask God to guide all on to the right path, to consider if only for an instant the historical responsibilities shouldered by all those who are remotely or closely participating in fueling the flames and in creating hatred between Palestinian brothers. After a working lunch with His Excellency President Reagan and exchanging points of view with him [words indistinct] After spending a pleasant time of talk and exchange of ideas, I delivered my speech to the United Nations on the 3d of the month. You must, dear people, have understood the depth and dimensions of the speech. However, here I must emphasize the second point of my speech concerning the problem of the Moroccan Sahara. I must say and stress that we want the referendum. We want it as soon as possible. [words indistinct] No doubt the answer of the citizens in the Sahara will be positive, the answer we all expect. Logically and naturally, the answer will be yes to (?the Moroccan Sahara).

Anyway, and as I said at the United Nations, we are fully committed to the results of this referendum. However we find ourselves in the middle of an extremely strange turning point. The conditions and roles have changed. After [words indistinct] standing in the position of the guilty towards whom fingers are pointed, accused of being colonialist, expansionist, a feudal who denies people the right to self-determination and ignores and feigns to forget all the OAU resolutions; an arrogant — that is to say Morocco, including me — who does not attach any important to what some brothers, African heads of state ask from him; after all this, things have changed and gone the other way round. Now it is us who ask that this referendum should be held quickly, and certain quarters in Africa seek to obstruct this objective [words indistinct] and to postpone this date Morocco has fixed with history a date of truth and right.

After my speech at the United States, I went to France where once again I met my friend His Excellency President Francois Mitterrand with whom I had a long working session and a working dinner. Once again it is necessary to say I felt the depth of Moroccan-French relations, their seriousness, their sincerity, and their frankness. Once again I found from President Mitterrand a reason for the consolidation of the personal human relations between us as responsible persons. From there I went to Brussels where I tried to deal with the Moroccan problem concerning the EEC.

Let us, my dear people, return to the question of our Green March anniversary. My dear people, as you know, we have decided to postpone the legislative general elections which were scheduled to take place some months ago. We decided to postpone them so that we can keep away the Moroccan body politic from being tarnished by the elecotral campaign and so that it will remain sound, strong, vital, energetic, and responsive so that it can stand as one man when the Sahara referendum takes place. We have postponed these legislative elections after sensing as usual, and as you, my dear people, have sensed as usual, that these senses and feelings are mutual and common in regard to one thing: Namely, the Moroccan atmosphere and the (?political) health of the Moroccan people or lack of it. We sensed that the Moroccan people have responded to the idea of postponing these elections.

After consultations we were advised by all the parties concerned in these elections, namely the political parties, that postponing these elections is good and that the Moroccans must — whatever their political leanings — be one rank which knows no rift or split or dispute or disunity in face of the test, the test of the referendum in which undoubtedly we will succeed. God willing and overwhelmingly.

Therefore, as from now take care of two events: The first is the referendum. We should surround it with all honesty, and also place ourselves, our machinery, and our potentials at the disposal of the OAU and the UN organizations for holding this referendum in the best conditions and the cleanest atmosphere. we also have to take care of the legislative elections. We must take care of these elections through creation of an atmosphere of understanding and (?amity) among political parties and keep, as much as possible, the government machinery out of favoritism and partisanship, and thirdly, we must bring in as many as possible of the government officials to help maintain these two atmospheres on the one hand and also to be, when the second stage comes — the stage of the legislative elections — present in the government machinery and be in charge of (?it) and capable of assessing the honesty of these elections.

Therefore, we have decided to make a government reshuffle. Here, I must take you back to the past somewhat. After the municipal elections, there was a conversation between myself and Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, first with regard to the atmosphere which prevailed in the elections and the manner in which the elections took place. I began with a subject which he wanted to talk about first: Maati Bouabid will be asked to give up his duties as prime minister on the eve of the elections.

Therefore, for Maati Bouabid to give up his position as prime minister, I must on this occasion praise the man and praise the prime minister. But truly, in the period in which he served with me as a prime minister, I have found him to be constantly [words indistinct] and worthy of the trust [words indistinct]. In my own name and in your name, I must praise his work and thank him for what he has done (?alongside me). For our next government we will find a prime minister who has no party affiliation or movement — a political movement — someone who has no party loyalty or political movement and we will invite the officials and the secretaries general in the political bodies which took part in the electoral campaign on radio and televison to work alongside us [word indistinct] as ministers of state. They will be partners and will participate in all the government deliberations.

I do not know who spread the fairy tale which said that the ministers of state do not attend the Council of Ministers meetings or government councils. I say it is a myth and I say this contradicts the truth. This is because a minister of state, ever since Morocco gained independence, is a minister who enjoys full powers as a minister in the government councils and in the councils which concern economic, social or political or other issues. They are ministers who enjoy full powers and responsibility and are not (?restricted). This fairy story is a kind of [words indistinct] A minister of state is a minister who enjoys complete political responsibility. As for the rest of the government members, (?I will appoint them) on the basis of their ability. Their ability need not be in harmony with their political affiliation. [words indistinct]

The important thing in all this is that we will create [words indistinct] a government which is headed by the political chiefs of staff — the interior and the external — and these will be aroundme and all of whom, God willing, will be from among those whom I have (?known) and who took part in the electoral campaign on radio and television and on the highest level. These will form together with the prime minister whom I shall appoint, the chiefs of staff who will take care of the Saharan referendum and the domestic elections. And when I say domestic, the elections will also be held in the Sahara as they were (?before).

Finally, I want to say in all frankness, sincerity, and with a clear conscience, the government will not punish politicians [words indistinct]. There will be no embarrassment for anyone who wants to join, there will be no blame or reproachment. Patriotism is not conditional on or linked with government participation.

Therefore, my dear people, let these two battles start with God's blessing; the battle of the referendum from which we shall emerge successful and the legislative election battle from which Morocco will emerge successful and victorious because with absolute certainty, the Muslim Moroccan's word will not agree with error. Moroccans as a whole, whatever their political conviction, will select among themselves the most capable, strongest, most integrated, and closest to [word indistinct] their particular and general interests and objectives of groups, individuals, and of the dear homeland. I pray to God to guide us all to the right path, guide our steps, and always remain our source of inspiration and be with us until we reach what we want for our country and what we all want for ourselves and for the community we live in, whether Arab, Islamic, or human: to reach prosperity, peace, lasting fraternity. Peace be upon you and God's mercy.

King Hassan Receives UAE President, Delegation

LD070105 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II this evening received in audience at the Royal Court, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, the UAE president, who was accompanied by a ministerial delegation comprising Shaykh Rashid al-Mu'alla, the ruler of the Umm al-Quwayn emirate and member of the Supeme UAE council; His Excellency Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, representative of the UAE head of state; Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources; and His Excellency Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

SUDAN

Syrian, Libyan Plot Against Palestinians Condemned

JN061822 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Nov (SUNA) — In a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry today, Sudan strongly denounced the Syrian-Libyan conspiracy, which aims at liquidating the PLO, and also condemned the siege and the indiscriminate shelling to which the Palestinian revolution's strugglers are being subjected in Tripoli, northern Lebanon. The statement asserted that Sudan proceeds from firm bases that aim at protecting the Palestinian revolution under struggler Yasir 'Arafat, and warned the Syrian and Libyan regimes that the Arab people will not forgive them for their conspiracy against the Palestinians, a conspiracy that was implemented at a time when the world was preoccupied by following up the Lebanese reconciliation conference in Geneva. The statement also called on the Arab leaders to assume their historic responsibility toward the Palestinian revolution and to act immediately to foil the said conspiracy.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Urges Support for Palestinian Revolution

LD041318 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba met this morning with Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi and reviewed with him the current international situation and particularly the Lebanese question, the situation which the Palestinian resistance is experiencing, as well as Tunisia's position on a number of the issues now before the UN General Assembly, in New York.

With regard to Palestinian resistance in Lebanon, Beji Caid es-Sebsi said that the grand combatant has received an urgent message from Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO Executive Committee chairman, in which he appealed to him to work toward putting an end to the tragedy through which the Palestinian revolution is passing, and that the president of the republic has been pursuing with great sorrow the development and deterioration of conditions in northern Lebanon and the serious repercussions this is likely to have on the major Arab cause and on the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people. The president reiterated his deep sorrow and great concern in this respect.

In the face of this tribulation, the president calls for reason and wisdom so that we may assure Palestinian freedom of decision within their institutions and enable them to protect the gains of their revolution. He appeals to all brother Arabs to act quickly to stop this bleeding which is weakening the Palestinian revolution and robbing the Arabs of their credence. We in Tunisia, having made contacts with Yasir 'Arafat and continuing contacts with our Arab brothers, wish to reiterate our complete solidarity with the struggling Palestinian people under the banner of their organization, which is ther sole legitimate representative.

Bourguiba Receives Palestinian Delegation

LD060940 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The painful development of conditions in Lebanon and the new crisis the Palestinian people are experiencing these days is attracting the special attention of the Great Combatant President Habib Bourguiba. The president, accompanied by Mme Bourguiba, has received a Palestinian delegation including the strugglers Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], and Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] who stated that the president was informed about what is happening in northern Lebanon, including assaults carried out by what he described as mercenary and dissident forces, and the terrible daily shelling the Palestinian camps are receiving. The president has once again affirmed the stance of the Tunisian president, government, and people with the Palestinian people in their crisis and he will do all he can to save the situation.

Bourguiba Message Presented to Bendjedid

LD061947 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Following the custom of consultation between Tunisia and Algeria, President Habib Bourguiba has sent a personal message to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The message was delivered to President Chadli Bendjedid by Habib Bourguiba, Jr, the private adviser to the president. The Tunisian ambassador to Algeria, Hedi Baccouche, was (?present). The message concerns the results of the recent official visit of the French president, Francois Mitterrand to Tunisia.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Former Minister Jailed for Coup Attempt

AB070720 Paris AFP in English 0711 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Bangui, Nov 7 (AFP) — A former government minister in the Central African Republic has been jailed for three years in connection with a coup attempt here in March last year. He is Major Michel Paulin Bondeboli, who held the portfolio of posts and telecommunications in the military regime. He was found guilty of failing to report offences and of stealing ammunition. Also sentenced to three years for stealing weapons was Sergeant Joseph Linda. A six-month sentence for rebellion was passed against Colonel Victor Ndimbo.

The sentences were passed at the weekend by a special tribunal which opened public hearings into the affair two weeks ago. It acquitted Major Francois Djadder-Bedaya and Captain Marc Boro of conspiring against state security. Two other former officer-ministers facing the same charges are Col. Gaston Ouedane (civil service) and Maj. Jerome Allam (state secretary for commerce and industry). The tribunal has adjourned their trial indefinitely for further evidence to be obtained.

Today the court is to start the trial of four members of the Politburo of the banned People's Liberation Movement (MLPC), Dieudonne Padoudji-Yadjoua, Theodore Bayaombo, Hugues Dobozendi and Jean Mette-Yapende. They are accused of inciting people in the capital's working-class districts to revolt against the government and to erect barricades in the streets on the night of March 3 last year. The call to rise against the regime in a radio broadcast shortly before midnight by Information Minister General Francois Bozize went unheeded. He and Justice Minister Gen. Alphonse Mbaikoua fled the country.

The four Politburo men are close aides of MLPC leader Ange Patasse, a former premier. He took refuge in the French Embassy here at the time of the shortlived coup bid and then went into exile in Togo under a deal between the French and Centrafrican Governments.

CHAD

Minister Denies Opposition Operations in Ndjamena

JN051546 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Nov (SUNA) — Soumaila Mahamat, Chadian information minister and Chadian Government official spokesman, has denied a report broadcast by Moscow radio that the enemies of President Habre's regime carried out several military operations in Ndjamena and attacked the Zairian forces in Ndjamena. In a statement to SUNA today the Chadian information minister described these allegations as tendentious and poisonous because the Soviets do not want to see Chad stable.

The Chadian information minister also referred to Moscow radio's allegations that Habre's enemies [word indistinct] the Chadian radio station. He said that 2 months ago one of the station's employees detonated a small bomb inside the radio station's building. He added that the explosion did not cause any victims or damage and did not affect the transmission. He also clarified that the above mentioned person was arrested and that he had received large amounts of money from some groups that deal with Libya.

New Envoys Appointed as Part of Reshuffle

AB060905 Paris AFP in English 0340 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Nov 6 (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre has named new ambassadors to several capitals as part of a diplomatic reshuffle, official sources said here Saturday. They include Naimbaye Lossimian Mbailaou, a former minister in ousted President Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional Government of National Union, who has been appointed Chad's ambassador to Belgium. Allami Ahmad is the new ambassador to France, Mahamat Ali Adoum to Washington, Issa Hassan Khayar to West Germany, Djime Togou to Saudi Arabia and Maitine Djoumbe to Zaire.

Bardai Radio Claims RSA Helping Habre

AB050725 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The bloody events in Chad have some positive aspects because they have helped clarify the national political scene and define the warring parties. At present the man with a traditional cap and with the boastful label of the Mao of Africa [words indistinct] is now a mere puppet of imperialism and Zionism. The salutary demythification that came in the wake of the increased armed liberation struggle is one of the first positive accomplishments achieved by the revolutionary forces these past months. Today the puppet hoards are being trained and protected by French paratroopers, supported by the men of Mobutu, the dictator. They are receiving counseling and financial assistance from U.S., French, and Israeli officers. They have thus unveiled their true image as servants of the imperialist and reactionary order in Africa.

This has just been made known by a report in the latest issue of *AFRIQUE-ASIE* published on Monday, 24 October. In fact, under the headline "The South Africans Are Helping Hissein Habre" our colleague writes, "several U.S. sources, especially the CIA, admit openly that important South African delegations visit Ndjamena regularly to meet Hissein Habre and several of his so-called ministers, not to mention the many South African mercenaries recruited by the FAN to consolidate its wavering power. It seems that the Pretoria government has asked [words indistinct] and the use of the Chadian territory as a support base for its aggressive schemes against some African states.'

These grave revelations from *AFRIQUE-ASIE* also confirms the anti-African nature of the Ndjamena lackeys (?who are serving) the interests of imperialism in Africa. Now the shameful Ndjamena-Kinshasa-Pretoria and Ndjamena-Kinshasa-Tel Aviv axes under U.S. supervision are secretly designed to oppose, from the very heart of our continent, the forces of peace and progress in Africa. But what can the enemies of Africans do against the fierce determination of Chadian patriots to free their territory in the interest of the African people?

CONGO

Nze Denounces U.S. 'Intervention' in Grenada

AB040755 Dakar PANA in French 1730 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 3 Nov (ACI/PANA) — "We cannot tolerate that in the present era any country, on the pretext of having certain authority, should invade another country to settle problems or to establish itself there." This statement was made in Brazzaville on Wednesday by Congolese Foreign Minister Pierre Nze in reference to the international situation, especially the situation in Grenada. The U.S. military intervention on that island is "an act of unjustifiable, patent aggression," he went on, adding that "the People's Republic of Congo associates itself with the international opinion which has unanimously condemned that move." The action by the U.S. Administration shows that "the threats of war have not been staved off yet," he observed, denouncing "the policy of the big stick." Mr Nze expressed the belief that the United States is a country "which does not comply with international law since it uses force to resolve problems, thinking that the world is its property and that it can enforce its own law..."

The Congolese foreign minister, who took part in the first phase of the deliberations of the 38th UN General Assembly, recalled the major issues examined: peace, disarmament, world detente, and the new world economic order. Mr Nze stressed the importance of a new world economic order. "About two-thirds of the countries in the world are facing a very difficult economic situation and all of mankind should address itself to this," he said. "The rich countries should not react to those affected by the crisis as though they have the plague. Instead, they should consider the situation as a blow to mankind."

Referring to the conflicts in the world, the Congolese minister stated that "Namibia is one of the problems which the United Nations does not find easy to resolve." He added that it seems the question is no longer in the hands of the United Nations, but in the hands of a group trying to delay that territory's independence because of the artificial linkage which the United States and South Africa have established between Namibia's independence and the presence of Cuban troops in another sovereign country, Angola.

With regard to the Western Sahara, Mr Nze believed that though the debates at the United Nations did not make headway toward the settlement of the problem, they created a favorable climate for a settlement. Morocco, the minister recalled, is not implementing the OAU resolution calling for direct negotiations with the Polisario and for a self-determination referendum.

Concerning the Chadian problem, the withdrawal of foreign troops and negotiations among Chadians were recommended once again.

On the thorny problem of disarmament, the participants in the United Nations Assembly unanimously condemned the arms race which incurs huge expenses and worsens the world economic situation, along with the unavoidable catastrophe which might result, he noted. Quoting the UN secretary general, Minister Nze stated: "Every year we treat problems but nations do not comply with UN resolutions."

GABON

President Meets With Visiting Iranian Official

GF031736 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 3, IRNA — Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, deputy for political affairs of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, in a meeting with El-Hadj Omar Bongo president of Gabon in Libreville, Wednesday, presented the message of President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to him.

In this meeting the Iranian official while outlining Iran's policy of neither East nor West explained the viewpoints of Islamic Republic of Iran pertaining to international and African issues. On the crimes perpetrated by Saddam, he announced the staunch determination of the Islamic nation to punish Saddam.

Sheykh ol-Eslam expressed willingness for further cooperation between the two countries in the OPEC meets.

Omar Bongo, the Gabonese president, in response expressed his gratitude for message by President Khamene'i and confirming Iran's policies against the superpowers. He also praised the supportive stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards the struggles of the people of Africa against South African regime and Iran's cessation of oil exports to the apartheid regime of South Africa.

The Gabonese president expressed his country's interest in further expanding the existing ties and promoting cooperations in international arena and in OPEC. The Iranian official is currently on official visit to some African countries.

Niger Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

AB051050 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1900 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Niger Foreign Affairs Minister Daouda Diallo arrived in Libreville, Gabon late this afternoon with a message from Niger President Seyni Kountche to Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo. The message concerns the state of the friendly bonds of friendship between Niger and Gabon. Talking to Radio Gabon correspondent Yacinthe M'balogo, the Niger foreign affairs minister spoke of the situation in his country after the abortive coup attempt against President Seyni Kountche. Please listen to him:

[Begin recording] [Diallo] Niger is doing very well. President Kountche even said so on the day of the coup attempt, and thanks to the vigilance of the people of Niger and the unity of the Niger Armed Forces, the attempt was very quickly aborted. Moreover, it did not in any way disturb either the unity of the Niger Armed Forces nor the tranquility of the people of Niger. It was the work of a group of armed men who acted mainly out of personal ambition, a thing the people of Niger will never accept. Attempts to take power happen, unfortunately, in our countries. But I can assure you that Niger, which has just hosted three summits — the Economic Community of West African States [CEAO], the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD], and the West African Monetary Union [UMOA] summits — is faring very well and many observers must have noticed that themselves.

[M'balogo] One of the decisions made during the UMOA, CEAO, and ANAD summits you just mentioned was rightly the readmission of Mali into the UMOA. In concrete terms, what can this contribute from the viewpoint of exchanges between countries of the subregion?

[Diallo] This was a very important decision. Mali is an important country for each of the member-countries of the UMOA and it is a happy event that the government authorities of Mali have decided to join us within the framework of the UMOA, because you know the importance of money in the promotion of exchanges and also in providing amenities. It is for this reason that Mali has joined us again. We welcomed it wholeheartedly, and we are happy that the practical aspects concerning their return to the UMOA will be implemented as soon as possible. [end recording]

AFP: Boycott on News of France Continues

AB041505 Paris AFP in French 1001 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Libreville, 4 Nov (AFP) — Franco-Gabonese relations are still strained 12 days after the decision by Libreville authorities to boycott news of French origin or reports on France's role in the world, observers in the Gabonese capital stressed. It will be recalled that this step was taken in protest of the publication in France of the book entitled *African Affairs* by French journalist Pierre Pean. This work deals with the special relations between France and Gabon since its independence in 1960. It appears that this book, considered to be derogatory toward Gabon and published in a friendly country, deeply shocked President Omar Bongo and his entourage.

The boycott of French news imposed by the Gabonese authorities is strictly observed by the two national radio networks and the television. A still more significant fact is that Africa No 1, which has its headquarters in Libreville and whose programs are listened to almost everywhere in francophone black Africa (12 million listeners, according to estimates), has also been directed to join the boycott of French political, economic, sports, and cultural news until further notice. Thus, for 2 weeks, its news media have not mentioned the attack on the French troops in Beirut on 23 October although they have widely discussed the one made on the American Marines on the same day.

They also refrained from reporting President Francois Mitterrand's unexpected visit to the Lebanese capital, his official visit to Tunisia, and the congress of the Socialist Party in Bourg-en-Bresse. They also did not broadcast, as usual, the results of the soccer championship of France, generally listened to by Africans.

The Gabonese decision is an act of sovereignty which needs no comment, reliable sources in Libreville said. In fact, observers stress, no official statements explained the blackout of French news to the nation. Even the official communique made public on Wednesday evening after the last cabinet meeting did not mention it.

As for Paris, it quickly sent to Libreville on 30 and 31 October Roland Dumas, a lawyer and Mitterrand's personal friend, to try to improve the bad attitude of Gabonese officials toward French authorities. This visit, which remained secret in the Gabonese capital, apparently did not prove effective since 4 days after Dumas' departure, the blackout was still in force. Mr Dumas, who had a long meeting with the President Bongo, should report on his meeting to President Mitterrand this week, and it was felt in Libreville that the French head of state would soon have a telephone conversation with his Gabonese counterpart on this affair.

Apart from the contents of Pierre Pean's book, Gabon also denounces the publicity which the French media gave the book The Gabonese leaders are convinced that to safeguard the privileged relations between the two countries, France could have opposed the publication of *African Affairs*. They are also convinced that France has always been kind to Gabonese opposition members who are exiled in France and who are militants of the National Recovery Movement, which is banned in Gabon. This movement advocates the introduction of a multiparty system in Gabon, but has encountered the categorical refusal [words indistinct] arisen from the publication of *African Affairs* might have a lasting influence on the development of bilateral relations.

If some Gabonese authorities favor an end to the boycott, others on the contrary favor an even more radical stand on this issue. If the latter view is accepted, Gabon will systematically review all trade contracts that the two countries were preparing to sign shortly, observers in Libreville feel.

PANA: Government Adopts 1984 Draft Budget

AB031915 Dakar PANA in French 1240 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Libreville, 3 Nov (AGP/PANA) — Members of the Gabonese Government, at a cabinet meeting presided over by the head of state, President Omar Bongo, on Wednesday set the 1984 draft budget, both in revenues and expenditures, at 596 billion CFA francs.

Recalling that this draft "appropriation bill" falls within a "particularly gloomy" economic context at the international and national levels, the official statement issued at the end of the meeting stressed that at the international level, future actions "will aim at being in line with the incipient recovery" and that at the national level "national action will be relaunched in 1984 in an effort to improve the oil market and to strengthen the fiscal and economic measures taken this year to encourage investment."

The Council of Ministers meeting, which mainly centered on the examination of the 1984 appropriation bill, the statement added, also decided to "maintain and strengthen support measures taken in 1983." These measures, the statement pointed out, concern financing the National Social Security Fund (CNGS), reducing the deductions from civil servants' salaries for quarters occupied by them, bolstering the economy, and improving fiscal harmonization.

The government also decided to lift "slightly" the rate of the complementary charges on salaries in order to, the final statement pointed out, give the state the means to finance the CNGS "whose benefits payments to the needy persons are very heavy." All salaries, the statement continued, must be included in this "effort of national solidarity."

According to the final statement, the government set the new rate of this "solidarity tax" at 1.5 percent for monthly salaries between 55,000 CFA francs and 100,000 CFA francs and 2.5 percent for those higher than 100,000 CFA francs.

However, the Council of Ministers decided to reduce deductions from civil servants' salaries for quarters occupied by them. The contribution paid by civil servants housed by the state will henceforth be nothing for the 1st year, 3 percent for 2d year, 6 percent for the 3d, 10 percent for the 4th, 15 percent for the 5th, and 20 percent beginning with the 6th year.

Also, measures aimed at supporting the economy were taken by the Council of Ministers, which decided to decrease "some aspects of the national fiscal policy which still paralyze the industrial sector" like the double imposition of the TCA [expansion unknown] to the "building-public works" subcontractors. It also decided to reduce from 8 percent to 4 percent the tax on the profits of building subcontractors.

Measures aimed at amending "certain texts" in order to adapt them to the system of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC) were also taken by the government, which was motivated by a concern to achive fiscal harmonization.

The statement stressed that the 1984 budget gives a prominent place to the social sector and to the Trans-Gabonais Railroad. Finally, it pointed out that each member of the Gabonese Government will, beginning 7 November 1983, "hold a debate on national radio and television on the draft budget for his department, so that the people (...) are clearly informed on the life of the public services."

GAMBIA

Jawara Says Corn, Millet Destroyed by Drought

AB041115 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Senegambia (?has not been) spared by the drought that raged this year in our subregion. But this year's drought, in President Dawda Jawara's view, can in no way be compared with that of 1980. According to him, corn and millet crops in many regions were completely destroyed due to lack of water. The Gambian head of state stated in a press conference in Banjul yesterday that an evaluation of the losses caused by the drought is currently underway in order to determine the food needs to be requested from the international community. In addition, President Dawda Jawara revealed that three former aides of Kokoi Samba Sanya, the perpetrator of the 30 July 1981 abortive coup in Gambia, have defected after staying with Kukoi in Guinea-Bissau and Cuba, and have returned to Banjul, where they are currently helping the authorities to investigate the causes of the attempted overthrow of the regime.

GHANA

Exercise With Upper Volta Armed Forces Begins

AB042050 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The Armed Forces of Ghana and Upper Volta today began joint military maneuvers along the common boundary of the two countries in the Navrongo-Po area. An official statement issued in Accra said these maneuvers, code named Exercise Bold Union, involved selected military units from both countries, and are designed to practice commanders on joint operational planning. They are also designed to rehearse the troops involved in various phases of warfare under realistic battle conditions and to foster the spirit of mutual assistance among the troops. The Ghanaian contingent is being directed by Colonel C. Doe Ayomah, the commander of the 2d Infantry Brigade Group.

Statement on Joint Exercises

AB060910 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The commander of the Second Infantry Brigade of the Ghana Armed Forces, Colonel Seidu Ayumah, has held discussions with the Upper Volta Minister of Defense and Chief of Defense Staff Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani at Bolgatanga. The talks were in connection with the current joint military exercises by the two countries. A joint statement issued after the meeting today said the discussions centered on cooperation and solidarity between the peoples of Ghana and the Upper Volta. It said the political implication of the exercises is more important than the military aspect. This is because they show the determination of the Armed Forces of the two countries to come together to defend their revolution. The whole world, the statement emphasized, should know that the two Armed Forces are ready to fight to the last man to defend their revolutions. It added that with the determination of the peoples of the two countries to stand firmly behind their Armies and their leaders, there will be progress.

TIMES Praises Exercise

AB061045 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The *TIMES* discusses Exercise Bold Union, the military maneuvers now taking place along Ghana's northern border. The paper says Exercise Bold Union has broken new grounds. Instead of Ghanaians on their own having to repel any possible hostile forces, a joint Armed Forces of Ghana and Upper Volta are working together in cooperation for the mutual defense of the two countries. The commanders of the selected units from the two countries will plan together, work together, and operate together under battle conditions. Their men will have to learn to function side by side with men of a different nationality, language, and training but united by a common purpose and a spirit of mutual assistance.

The *TIMES* says Ghana's ties with Upper Volta are close. Their common boundary is [word indistinct] by tribes and historic ties. It is now also a boundary between peoples of similar revolutionary ideals. The Upper Volta leader, Captain Thomas Sankara, has in various speeches and declarations and by his actions indicated that the two countries are traveling very similar roads towards grassroot development, real democratization of political and social structure, and the future of dignity and true independence.

The paper says since the parallels are so close and as the two nations are neighbors, it is to be expected that cooperation and mutual assistance between Ghana and Upper Volta will be strong in many fields. The *TIMES* says Exercise Bold Union has altered the picture of local military exercises. Instead of the insular mentality of troops alert to repel any intrusion from outside, we have colleagues of two nations training to defend both nations and the development of a wider loyalty, a loyalty towards common ideals and the resolve and determination to solve common problems. This is a union which should grow and thrive.

UK Call for Commonwealth Force on Grenada Rejected

AB042205 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The June 4 Movement has rejected a proposal by Britain that the Commonwealth Secretariat should send a security team to Grenada to replace the U.S. invading force on the island.

In a statement issued in Accra, the movement described the British condemnation of the United States as cosmetic. It said whether the proposed security team is military or police, it still amounts to a interference in the internal affairs of Grenada because the people of the island have not called for any peacekeeping force to help them in the maintenance of law and order.

Foreign Ministry Condemns RSA Amendment

AB041903 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The Ghana Government has condemned the so-called constitutional amendment by the apartheid South African regime which allows Coloreds and Indians to have their own separate parliaments. In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs described the amendment as a farcical exercise calculated to undermine the concerted and determined opposition to the unpopular and inhuman apartheid regime. The statement said the object of the amendment is to breach the solidarity of the Indians and coloreds with the black majority, and thus entrench further the untenable authority of the minority regime. It pointed out the fact that the blacks, constituting some 88 percent of the population, have been left out deprived the exercise of any moral value and exposed it as yet another example of South Africa's political bankruptcy.

The statement noted that the desperate efforts by the Pretoria regime to win respectability for an odious and retrograde system are doomed to failure. The government therefore called on the Indian and Colored populations not to allow themselves to be misled and reiterated the determination of the people of Ghana to assist in the final liquidation of the apartheid system.

Ghanaians Expelled by Nigeria Arrive at Aflao

AB041900 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Reports from Aflao say hundreds of Ghanaians have been arriving at this border town daily from Nigeria after being expelled by Nigerian immigration officials. A GHANA NEWS AGENCY report said some of them arrived through bush paths following the closure of the Togolese side of the border. One report said the Nigerian authorities have been arresting aliens without residence permits and valid traveling documents. Meanwhile, Nigeria's national daily, *THE CONCORD*, has reported that aliens in Nigeria have been given 30 days to leave voluntarily or be thrown out by 16 November.

Pisani Says EEC To Support PNDC Economic Policies

AB040738 Paris AFP in English 0404 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Accra, Nov 4 (AFP) — European Economic Community Commissioner for Development Edgar Pisani has assured Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings that the EEC is anxious to see Ghana prosper, as the country has all the potential needed to build up a good and dynamic program to sustain its economy. Mr Pisani, who met Flight Lieutenant Rawlings Wednesday night, said that the ruling Provisional National Defence Council's economic policies were correct and necessary, and that the EEC would throw its full support behind them. The EEC commissioner expressed optimism over a meeting of Ghana's donor countries in Paris on November 23, given the soundness of the government's program for economic recovery. Everything would be done to encourage EEC members to participate in the meeting and persuade other donors to set up programs with the World Bank to support Ghana, Mr Pisani said.

Flight Lt Rawlings said that all Ghana needed was "a tolerable momentum in the form of genuine assistance to step up the take-off of her economy." The EEC could count on the efforts of the Ghanaian people, he added. After a period of economic anarchy since Flight Lt Rawlings came to power nearly two years ago, Ghana has been forced to accept very tough International Monetary Fund conditions to finance a recovery programme that is expected to impress donors at the Paris meeting later this month.

Commentary on Visits by World Bank, EEC Officials

AB041610 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Station Commentary]

[Text] In a little less than 2 weeks, two groups of important personalities connected with two international bodies — the World Bank and the European Economic Community — have visited Ghana in connection with the provision of development aid and loans. Last week, the World Bank's director for the West African department, Mr (Allisbar), paid a 2-day visit to introduce the bank's latest report on Ghana and to hold further discussions on the consultative group meeting on Ghana to be held under the auspices of the World Bank. And yesterday, Mr Edgar Pisani, EEC commissioner for development and relations with Third World countries, left Accra after a 2-day visit during which he also held discussions with the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] Chairman Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, the secretaries for finance and economic planning and foreign affairs, and officials of the Agriculture Ministry.

The two visits cannot pass without comment considering their import and significance for the country, and especially for the implementation of the 3-year national economic recovery program launched by the PNDC in April this year. Both officials remarked that the program was bold and realistic. They also expressed the confidence that it would succeed and called on Ghanaians and the international community to give it a chance and support it.

Even more significant against this background of aid and loans is the fact that the two visitors stating their impressions about Ghana as a developing country emphasized her immense potential in no less a field than agricultural development and increased food production, the cornerstone of the recovery program and indeed of the December 31 revolution. Mr Pisani, in his press briefing, spoke of the availability of appropriate infrastructure and industrial equipment in Ghana, while Mr (Allisbar) and his team said that hosting of the donors conference by the World Bank was as a result of the hope for a resuscitated economy generated by the recovery program and the PNDC's economic policy. They both noted that a favorable climate had been created for investment and rehabilitation projects to be undertaken.

The other striking feature is the strategies the two international bodies proposed to adopt with respect to Ghana: and this is the special value they will place on useful and purposeful aid. For the World Bank and the EEC, the new methodology for their operations to this country will be based on Ghana identifying and clearly defining for herself the kind of assistance she needs from Europe and how this is to be channeled in order to realize its fullest benefit. But over and above all, the goodwill being expressed for Ghana's recovery program is the realization also that though Ghana's potential may be great, so also is her task of reconstruction. The two international officials did not hesitate to speak freely on the great efforts Ghanaians would have to put into reviving the economy through the recovery program. Mr Pisani's words were: You as a nation have a great effort to make to rebuild your economy. If you succeed, the returns will be immense. On his part, the World Bank official, Mr (Allisbar) declared: The recovery program will not be easy to implement, but it will succeed with your support and hard work, and with its success comes food self-sufficiency.

Quite clearly then, the two world bodies, supported by the donor countries, will help Ghana get into a position where she can help herself. The greater onus therefore lies with us just as the fullest benefits that accrue stand to be enjoyed by us.

Power-Cuts Throughout Country To Begin

AB032110 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The Volta River Authority [VRA] and the Electricity Corporation of Ghana have been forced by natural circumstances to resort to planned power-cuts throughout the country. The chief executive of the VRA, Louis Casely-Hayford, who announced this in a radio and television broadcast a short while ago, explained that this course of action has to be taken because of the fall in the water level of the Askosombo reservoir. Mr Casely-Hayford said detailed particulars of the power-cuts will be published regularly by the mass media. He appealed to users of electricity to help in every way possible by using power sparingly as from tonight and during the period of the planned cuts. He stated that by the planned power-cuts, all users of electricity other than essential services would have to go through periods of days and nights without power.

He said the planned cuts will be reviewed in July next year when the next rainy season is expected. Mr Casely-Hayford said with conservation and power-cuts, it is hoped that the Akosombo reservoir will be saved. Earlier, Mr Casely-Hayford had given statistics of the rainfall pattern over the years showing a downward trend all along with the result that the water level in the Akosombo reservoir had to fall below the desired level.

Official on 'Deterioration of Public Property'

AB061105 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] "Deterioration of Public Property — Government Asked To Stop Neglect" This is the banner headline carried on the front page of the *PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC*. According to a circular issued to all heads of ministries, departments, and agencies by the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, he has reminded them that the government is very much concerned about the alarming rate of deterioration of public buildings, equipment, machinery, and interior furnishing. Under a 5-year program beginning next January to halt the rate of deterioration, no new projects will be carried out. The secretary has therefore asked the heads to submit estimated costs of repairs to be carried out on property under their supervision. He warned that any head who fails to comply with this directive will be held personally responsible for any further deterioration in respect of any property under him.

IVORY COAST

National Council Meets on Security, Education

AB032130 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The extended National Council meeting took place this morning from 1000 to 1300 at the Presidential Palace under the chairmanship of the head of state. Ali Coulibaly, you were at the meeting.

[Coulibaly] The extended National Council meeting of the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally, met from 1000 to 1300 at the Presidential Palace under the chairmanship of the head of state and chairman of the party. During this family meeting, the chairman of the party, who has just returned to Ivory Coast after a 5-month absence, expressed again his great joy to be among his people again. He expressed his pride in returning to a country which has been able to maintain its climate of social and political peace.

Speaking on the first item on the agenda of this meeting, the chairman of the party informed the National Council of the positive results of all the contacts he had during his visits to the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and France. From these contacts, it can be observed that the outside world has an increasing interest in Ivory Coast and that the progress achieved in our country is being followed with a lot of sympathy. A sincere desire to assist Ivoy Coast to pursue its development was expressed, the president said, adding that these are not empty promises.

However, the chairman of the party calls on Ivorians to deserve this confidence by maintaining not only the peaceful climate, but also by being serious in their work, because investments do not thrive in instability and lack of seriousness. Ivory Coast must be able to behave in such a manner that the assistance it receives will in the long run enable it to do away with this assistance, because we do not want to be eternally assisted people.

After communicating to the council his lessons from the visits abroad, the chairman of the party analyzed the economic and social situation of Ivory Coast. This situation remains difficult despite efforts of economic recovery undertaken, which were favorably received abroad. Therefore, there is a need to persevere on the path of recovery by avoiding the perpetuation of situations of injustice, which are the causes of dissatisfaction. This will require of us all more effort and more sacrifice in order to save the future of Ivory Coast.

To this end, the president of the republic stressed a number of issues of concern to which solutions must be found in the interest of the nation. They are: the house leasing system, the security of Ivorians, and education. First, the house leasing system. The head of state continues to have confidence in the commission of inquiry set up for this purpose. This commission, which has already done a considerable amount of work, must be encouraged. The president will do everything so that this commission is not pressured by himself or by any of his close aides. Recalling that there is a separation of powers, the president reiterated his confidence in the prosecutors charged with investigating the cases submitted to them by the commission of inquiry. The problem of security is also a preoccupying situation, the president agreed. This is why, in the forthcoming days, he is planning to equip the police service with all means to enable them to fulfill their mission of internal security of Ivory Coast.

On education, the president noted that there was confusion concerning the notion of making it free. He therefore recalled the duty of the state in this field, that is, the building of the schools and the training of the teachers. Also, for more justice and equity, scholarships will be given according to precise criteria. To this end, a national commission will be set up. Still with regard to scholarships, the president pointed out that the current rates will be maintained. Finally, the chairman of the party recalled that we must first rely on ourselves. Ivorians must be mobilized to overcome all obstacles. To this end, there is a need to make general interests transcend individual interests. He asked Ivorians once again to fully assume their responsibilities. President Houphouet-Boigny wants everybody to share this philosophy with him. It is a philosophy which has always inspired his actions — live and let live. He added that we must do everything to give a prominent place to the notion of productivity in all fields of activity.

Later, the participants were called upon to reflect on all the issues of national concern in order to suggest solutions at the next extended National Council meeting, which will be held on Thursday, 10 November, at 1000, still at the Presidential Palace. It is after this meeting that the Cabinet reshuffle announced by the head of state will take place.

LIBERIA

Officials Banned From Visiting Quiwonkpa

AB041625 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Head of state Dr Samuel K. Doe has banned all government officials from visiting former Commanding General Thomas Quiwonkpa. Commander in Chief [CIC] Doe made the statement today before this morning's debate on the draft constitution. Making the council's position clear on the matter concerning Mr Quiwonkpa, head of state Doe said in view of the many appeals the council has received, the former general was asked to write a letter to the People's Redemption Council [PRC] intended to acknowlege his regret for refusing to accept his assignment. This letter has not been written. The head of state then announced that no government official would be allowed to visit the former general. CIC Doe warned that if any government official is caught, he would spend 2 years in jail at Camp Beleyala.

Meanwhile, the minister of national defense, the Army chief of staff, the minister of justice, and the director of police have been ordered to arrest any para-military or military personnel in the area of the general's house. As a further warning, CIC Doe has directed the minister of foreign affairs to invite all foreign diplomats to his office to inform them to desist from visiting the ex-general. To do so, head of state Doe said, would be considered breach of diplomatic immunity, and the consequences would be applied accordingly.

Further on Doe Order

AB042212 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The head of state and chairman of the ruling People's Redemption Council, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has threatened to issue a 3-year jail sentence for any government official who visits former Commanding General Thomas Quiwonkpa. All government officials and members of the diplomatic corps have been barred from visiting the former general. The banning order was given today by Dr Doe. He accordingly directed the Army chief of staff, the Ministries of Defense and Justice, as well as the police director to arrest any official military or paramilitary personnel found in the area of Quiwonkpa's residence.

Dr Doe also directed the foreign minister to inform all foreign diplomats not to visit the former commanding general. He said a visit by a foreign diplomat would be considered a breach of diplomatic immunity and the consequences will apply accordingly. The head of state said the present action does not restrict the freedom of movement by the former general. He also said the former Commanding General Thomas Quiwonkpa is not under house arrest and that his relatives and friends who are not employees of government are permitted to visit him. The Liberian leader has also appealed to all (?prelates) to cancel any further efforts in reconciling the Quiwonkpa issue. Head of state Doe said he received numerous appeals from leaders, chiefs, county, and territorial superintendents for a reconciliation of the Quiwonkpa issue. Commander in chief Doe said the former general has refused to write a letter intended to acknowledge his regret for refusing to accept his assignment in view of his appeals. Dr Doe said the letter, which he asked the former general to write, could have ended the situation that seems to have raised so much concern in the country.

NIGER

Civilians Return to Political Process

AB061025 Paris AFP in English 0953 GMT 6 Nov 83

[By Philippe Mudry]

[Text] Niamey, Nov 6 (AFP) — The National Development Council (CND), the summit of the pyramidal structure of government laboriously built up in the West African state of Niger since 1974, finally held its first session last week, marking the definitive return of civilians into the political process. For the CND is chaired by Prime Minister Oumarou Mamane, a surprise appointment by President Seyni Kountche, as the post was generally expected to go to the architect of the council, Lieutenant-Colonel Moumouni Djermakoye Adamou. [sentence as received] The formation of the CND is the final stage in the building of the "society of development," a middle way between the dictatorship of the Supreme Military Council which has held power since the April 1974 coup, and a multi-party system which President Kountche has ruled out as divisive.

A social consensus guaranteeing national unity and security is the obsession of the regime, which began the process of forming the "society of development" in October 1979 with development councils first at village level, then covering larger administrative areas.

The idea is to have "voluntary participation of all social strata," including representatives of professional associations, the traditional chiefs, women's associations, cooperatives, the administration, and the Armed Forces. A particular place is reserved for the youth organizations, the Samariya, reflecting the fact that 60 percent of the population is aged under 30.

The civilians' presence in the CND, whose first task is to draw up a "national charter," is still only relative. The Ministry of Defense has a larger representation than other ministries, and the council's first vice-chairman is Deputy Chief of the General Staff Toumba Aboubacar, who played a decisive role in putting down an attempted coup on October 6. The seven regional prefects, all senior military men, head the regional development councils and are members of the CND Inner Bureau formed last week.

In fact there are a number of still unanswered questions on the precise role of the new political structure and its future. Last week Prime Minister Mamane said that at local level the [passage indistinct] responsibilities would be shared by the councils and the orthodox local administration is still not clear.

At the national level the CND can still only suggest. President Kountche spelled this out three months ago at the council's official inauguration, when he declared, "The state will call on you whenever it has need, and will inform you of every national problem, inviting your remarks and suggestions."

The responsibility for summoning the CND and deciding what it should discuss seems thus to rest firmly with the executive. There is also considerable scepticism among Niger's intellectuals on the question of the national charter the CND is to draw up, notably concerning the time-scale and content. This scepticism was referred to indirectly by Mr Mamane on Wednesday at the CND's first meeting, when he said that the participation of the intelligentsia was "more than ever necessary."

In the opinion of observers this willingness to participate by the country's thinking classes could make or break this political experiment in a country which is 85 percent rural and whose government is obsessed by threats of internal divisions engineered by enemies from inside and outside its borders.

NIGERIA

NPN Officials Directed To Take Pay Cuts

AB060820 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The National Executive Council [NEC] of the National Party of Nigeria [NPN] has directed all the elected members of the party and political appointees to take a cut in their salaries and allowances. The reduction ranges from 7.5 percent to 15 percent. This was announced yesterday by the party's national secretary, Alhaji Uba Ahmed, while briefing newsmen on the outcome of a 1-day meeting of the party's NEC in Enugu, Anambra state. He explained that the cut in salaries was meant to ensure a saving for the nation of over 25 million naira per annum.

The NEC called on other political parties in the country which control governments to emulate the gesture of the NPN in view of the present economic situation in the country. According to Alhaji Uba Ahmed, the council has set up a relief fund to aid the victims and families of the violence during the last gubernatorial elections in Ondo State. It has also dissolved the Ondo State Executive of the party and set up a committee to manage the affairs of the state branch for a maximum period of 1 year.

Senator Ahmed announced that the national convention of the party had been fixed for the 3d and 4th of next month in Ibadan, Oyo State. State branches of the party are expected to hold their congresses before the 26th of this month. Alhaji Uba Ahmed said in view of the prevailing situation in Kwara, Ondo, Anambra, and Imo States, they were exempted from holding state congresses until further notice. The NEC, he said, also reaffirmed its belief in the zoning policy of the NPN. The meeting was attended by the national chairman of the party, Chief Augustus Akinloye, the governors of Anambra and Niger States, as well as the Ikemba Nnewi, Chief Odumegwu Ojukwu.

SENEGAL

Mali's Traore Pleased With Talks With Diouf

AB041700 Dakar PANA in French 1512 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Dakar, 4 Nov (APS-SENEGAL/PANA) — Malian President Moussa Traore has expressed satisfaction with the "excellent relations" existing between his country and Senegal and with the "convergent views" noted in his talks with President Abdou Diouf on African and world issues during his 24-hour working visit to Dakar.

At a meeting with the press shortly before his departure on Friday morning, the Malian head of state indicated that his talks with his Senegalese counterpart touched on African issues such as Chad and the Western Sahara, and that they had convergent views, as it is usually the case when the problem is to "find peaceful solutions." President Traore recalled that Mr Diouf participated in the commission set up at the OAU summit in Addis Ababa to draft the resolution on the Western Sahara, noting that Mali has "promised to support the resolution," just as it supports the steps of Mauritanian head of state Khouna Ould Haydala to approach the various warring parties in the Chadian conflict.

Referring to the Senegal River Development Organization, the Malian president said that it was "one of the most credible organizations on our continent" and that it was necessary to support it "so that the integration of our subregion will be achieved as soon as possible." President Moussa Traore, who was seen off by President Abdou Diouf and many officials, also underlined "the excellence of the relations" between Senegal and Mali, "especially in the political sphere," and expressed hope that our economic ties will soon reflect our political relations.

PLP Secretary General Presents Party Program

AB041124 Paris AFP in French 0803 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Dakar, 4 Nov (AFP) — The People's Liberation Party [PLP], the 14th Senegalese opposition party, has presented its program during the first press conference given by the party since its formation last July. PLP Secretary General Babacar Niang stated during the press conference that the main concern of the party is not to fight for the triumph of abstract ideas and that the party is not in the service of any ideology or class. According to him, the PLP, which was formed by the dissident members of Chieck Anta Diop's Democratic National Rally, supports the principles of anti-imperialist solidarity and nonalignment. It also supports the struggles of the people of Namibia, South Africa, Western Sahara, Palestine, and Central America.

Mr Niang, who feels that security precedes development, called on African nations to strengthen their defense network to face South African threats, as well as economic or ecological threats such as the plundering of Africa's territorial waters and desert encroachment. Mr Niang maintained that only fundamental changes in government orientation can end Senegal's economic, social, cultural, moral, and institutional crisis. In this connection, he favored the calls made by Senegal's religious leaders for consultations to help plan the necessary changes. Hostile to the idea of Francophone groupings, he expressed support for the use of national languages as official languages in the assemblies, government offices, and schools.

TOGO

Eyadema Message to Andropov on National Day

AB060850 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] On the occasion of the USSR's national celebrations tomorrow, President Eyadema has sent his congratulations and good wishes to Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the Presidium, USSR Supreme Soviet and secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party. Here is a text of the message:

Mr President, your country's national celebrations give me once again the opportunity to express to your excellency, and through you to the Soviet people, warm and sincere congratulations from the Togolese people and their party, the Togolese People's Rally, and from my government and myself. We know how much the Soviet people are attached to peace and justice and we appreciate, for its true value, their support to the developing world. That is why we are proud of the excellent ties of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries, and we sincerely hope they will increase in the interest of international peace and security. Please accept, Mr President, our sincere wishes for your good health and happiness and for the well-being and continued prosperity of the Soviet people. My highest regards.

UPPER VOLTA

Foreign Ministry Condemns U.S. on Grenada

AB050935 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Draft statement on the invasion of the island of Grenada issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ouagadougou on 5 November 1983]

[Text] Once again imperialism has struck. A small island with 110,000 inhabitants located in the Caribbean was a victim of the most unspeakable act of aggression by the leading world superpower, which unscrupulously carries out the most odious crimes to fulfill its thirst for domination. On 25 October 1983, Grenada woke up to a shower of mortars, bomb explosions, and automatic gunfire from American Marines and Rangers because it wanted to assume its own destiny. The progressive Grenadian forces and the Cuban technical assistants working in Grenada put up a fight against the American imperialist and Caribbean forces, but they were overmatched. In the evening, the invaders, due to their superiority in numbers and armament, defeated the freedom fighters. But what kind of victory is this?

A small state attacked in a cowardly way by a major superpower, one that in fact claims to represent world consciousness and to be the leading defender of democracy. The right of peoples to self-determination, which is contained in the UN Charter and which is a sacred principle, has been violated by the most powerful country in the world. One has no choice but to express shock and indignation.

We, the Upper Voltan people, fully share in the indignation and condemnation that was strongly expressed by the international community upon the announcement of this aggression, and on 26 October we asked the United States Embassy to give us a full explanation on the reasons for this military intervention and for this interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state. The explanation we were given is far from satisfactory. The United States has even impeded the repatriation of the Cuban dead and injured. That is why we, the revolutionary people of Upper Volta, loyal to our ideals of peace, justice, and noninterference in the affairs of other countries, fully condemn these barbaric acts that are vestiges of warmongering policies and that discredit contemporary international relations. For us, the invasion of Grenada is a serious violation of the independence and sovereignity of Third World states. Like all peoples who believe in peace and justice, we call on the United States of America to immediately withdraw its troops from Grenadian territory and to give the Grenadian people the freedom to assume their own destiny.

Accra Reports 'Foreign Mercenary' Shot Dead

AB050745 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] In Upper Volta, a white man described as a foreign mercenary is reported to have been shot dead by security forces near the headquarters of the ruling National Revolutionary Council. According to military sources in Ouagadougou, the man was among a group of at least four men spotted near the building during curfew hours last Wednesday. The others escaped.

The unidentified man, whose body was put on display in the capital, is said to have carried identity papers stolen from a professor living in France. The sources, however, declined to give further details except that the man was probably a French national, adding that an investigation is being carried into the incident. [as heard] Less than a week ago, the Upper Volta leader, Captain Thomas Sankara, announced that he has information that foreign mercenaries in the pay of former politicians are trying to overthrow him. It was the second hint of such a plot against the regime. In a television broadcast last week, Capt Sankara spoke of what he called increasing hostility of some unnamed countries against the country's revolution.

Statement on Control of Nonresident Foreigners

AB042130 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Statement by the National General Secretariat of the Revolutionary Defense Committees on new measures for monitoring nonresident aliens, issued in Ouagadougou on 4 November — read by Comrade Georges Compaore of the National General Secretariat]

[Text] Comrades male and female militants of the people's democratic revolution, as complementary measures to the important communique of the State Secretariat for the Interior on 24 October 1983, and in order to enable the Revolutionary Defense Committees [CDR] revolutionary groups to control efficiently nonresident foreigners in Upper Volta, the CDR National Secretariat informs all CDR offices that all nonresident aliens must register at the CDR office close to (?their residence).

Consequently, each CDR office will appoint a member responsible for security matters to ensure the struggle against mercenaries and keep a register with the following information on nonresident foreigners: first, names; second, date and place of birth; third, nationality; fourth, purpose of the trip; and fifth, date and place of entry. The register shall be signed once a week by the nearest police station or gendarmerie brigade. Any nonresident foreigner who violates the present measures will face expulsion, a prison term, or an appropriate revolutionary punishment.

As firmness does not preclude courtesy, we call on all CDR militants to make sure that the time-honored hospitality of Upper Voltans is safeguarded. Comrade militants, in the face of imperialist maneuvers aimed at destabilizing the revolution, we must remain vigilant. The fatherland or death, we shall overcome.

Foreign Minister Comments on Policy in UN

AB041600 Paris AFP in French 1345 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 4 Nov (AFP) — Upper Volta, elected on Monday night as a nonpermanent member of the UN Security Council, intends to make the settling of the Namibian, the Western Sahara, and the Southern African issues the three priorities of its action as far as Africa is concerned. Upper Voltan Foreign Minister Arba Diallo told AFP on Thursday that his government will first of all try to find a solution to enable Namibia to achieve independence very quickly. He indicated that this problem should mainly be examined within the framework of the OAU. On Western Sahara, Upper Volta advocates the principle of self-determination and the holding of a referendum free from all foreign interference. It invites all parties involved in the conflict to a roundtable conference. To put an end to the apartheid policy in Southern Africa, which Upper Volta will not stop condemning, the minister noted that his country will do everything to enable the United Nations to play its role.

The minister also indicated his intention to work for a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian tragedy on the basis of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and a fatherland. Finally, Upper Volta will support the Contadora Group (Mexico, Panama, Columbia, and Venezuela) in seeking a political solution to conflicts in Central America.

Ouagadougou on Military Exercises With Ghana

AB061145 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Since yesterday evening, Friday, 4 November, our National Armed Forces in collaboration with their brothers in arms of the sister Republic of Ghana have been undertaking joint maneuvers called Bold Union. These maneuvers, taking place at the border region of Ghana and Upper Volta, are aimed at testing the capacity of the two Armies to repel all external aggression. During these maneuvers, emphasis will be placed on the rapid reaction of our Armed Forces with a view to effecting a total and immediate destruction of any aggressor. Detachments of air and land forces of the two countries are involved. Jet fighters of the Ghana Army have been flying over the city of Ouagadougou since yesterday.

One thing must be noted: These Bold Union maneuvers are a concrete application of the speech made by Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, CNR, on 30 September in Po on the occasion of the first visit to the revolutionary soil of Upper Volta by Captain Rawlings, Ghana's head of state. It will be recalled that Comrade Thomas Sankara notably declared that support between the two countries' Armed Forces was a revolutionary need.

A second point, which is particularly significant, is that there are observers of Armed Forces of neighboring countries at these maneuvers as CNR guests. Moreover, these guests have participated in the commemorative ceremony of the 22d anniversary of our National Armed Forces celebrated on 1 November. Among the officers of the Armed Forces of sister countries participating in these maneuvers as observers there is the remarkable presence of the officers of the Armed Forces of Ivory Coast, which is highly appreciated by the highest Upper Voltan authorities. The presence of the Ivorian Armed Forces is considered by some commentators as a first step towards the normalization and establishment of an atmosphere of confidence and good neighborliness between the governments of the two countries whose peoples are inextricably linked by blood ties and history.

According to sources close to the CNR, similar maneuvers will be organized in the future not only with the Armed Forces of the sister Republic of Ghana but also with the Armed Forces of other countries prepared to fight alongside their Upper Voltan brothers in order to defend the territorial integrity and the dignity of our peoples against their common enemies, especially imperialism.

Finally, a third point also inspired by commentaries from authorized sources of the CNR: In spite of the scope and means at the disposal of the Boid Union maneuvers — which could be called daring or intrepid — the CNR insists on a limited scope to these joint exercises, which are working on the pinpointing of military targets, the immediate destruction and annihilation of a possible aggressor, and the routing of any possible attempt at destabilization. As the high commander in chief, Comrade Jean-Baptiste, said in his 1 November speech, the defense of the country and the revolution is the affair of all our people. This basic responsibility, which is the affair of every citizen, can in no way be entrusted to a group of persons no matter how specialized they are.

Yellow Fever Epidemic Reportedly Contained

AB061220 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The Anti-Yellow Fever Committee informs all the public of the following:

The prompt and adequate anti-yellow fever strategy has dealt a decisive blow to the yellow fever epidemic. In fact, for more than 10 days the situation has remained static. Less than 10 new cases were recorded. It can, therefore, be said that the plague has been contained for the moment. Nevertheless, the immunization campaign continues, for the government intends to seize this opportunity to extend the immunization exercise to every part of the country. In this way, the public shall be saved from this disease for a new period of 10 years.

With respect to vaccination in the city of Ouagadougou — the schools and institutions program started on Friday, 4 November with the Paspanga Primary School and the Philip (?Jean-Arc) High School — it shall be gradually extended to the other educational centers without any publication of a fixed timetable for the simple reason that the immunization officials have realized that over 80 percent of the children have been vaccinated at the specified locations in the city. In any case, the directors and heads of institutions shall individually be notified upon the arrival of the immunization team. The committee wants to remind the public that the anti-yellow fever campaign is a national struggle and that this action can only be fully efficient with the responsible participation and vigilance of every one. The fatherland or death. We shall overcome.

ANGOLA

USSR Delegation in Country for GOSR Celebration

AB041525 Luanda ANGOP in French 1050 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Luanda, 4 Nov (ANGOP) — The Ukrainian SSR delegation led by Georgiy Yefimenko, minister of higher and secondary specialized education, returned to Luanda on Thursday afternoon at the end of a 3-day visit to Benguela Province. Speaking to newsmen shortly before boarding the plane for Luanda, the Soviet minister expressed satisfaction over his visit to Benguela Province, where he noted the people's high spirits in carrying out their duties and in strengthening the defense to protect the Angolan fatherland.

Yesterday Georgiy Yefimenko opened an exhibition of Soviet books and later visited the African textile industrial complex in Benguela. He also attended a politico-military ceremony and later held a meeting with the Soviet community in Lobito. It will be recalled that the Soviet delegation arrived in Angola on 31 October 1983 to participate in Soviet week, which will be held in Luanda on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

GOSR Ceremony Held

MB050914 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The highlight of the festivities marking the 66th anniversary of the triumph of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR] was a ceremony at the Karl Marx theater in Luanda last night. The ceremony, which was presided over by Comrade Roberto de Almeida, ideology secretary of the party Central Committee, served to express once more the traditional friendship and solidarity of the fraternal links between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Angola and to condemn the bellicose policy promoted by the White House administration. During the first part of this political and cultural ceremony, Georgiy Yefimenko, minister of higher and secondary specialized education of the Ukrainian SSR, stressed that the Soviet Union will — as always — be on the side of the Angolan people in their victorious march toward socialism. He condemned the occupation of part of our territory by the South African racists and demanded the immediate and unconditional implementation of UN Resolution 435 on the decolonization of Namibia.

At the closing session of the political part of the ceremony, Comrade Roberto de Almeida pointed out that the GOSR has lit the brilliant flame of the liberation movement against colonialism, imperialism, and the exploitation of man by man. The constructive proposals which have been repeatedly presented by the Soviet Union to preserve world peace were hailed by the Angolan official. He also expressed his total opposition to the bellicose policy followed by Washington, which is evident in its plans to deploy medium-range missiles in Western Europe in flagrant violation of the principles outlined in the UN Charter. The final part of this ceremony was marked by an exhibition of Ukrainian and Soviet cultures and several demonstrations of our people's cultural potential.

Defense Ministry: RSA Using Chemical Weapons

MB050746 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The Ministry of Defense has disclosed that the South African Army has been using chemical weapons with paralyzing effects [armas quimicas paralisantes] and tear gas against civilians and People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] positions inside Angola. Such weapons have been banned by international conventions and condemned by humanity due to their criminal effects on living things, the Ministry of Defense noted. A Defense Ministry source told ANGOP that Pretoria has resorted to this type of weapon because it feels powerless in light of the defeats that its fellow army, the UNITA puppets, has been suffering in combat with the glorious FAPLA.

Over the past 2 months FAPLA forces have achieved great successes in the fight against UNITA bandits. Many of them have been killed, wounded, or captured during that period, and some of them have abandoned the forests and have sought refuge among the Angolan people. These defeats have forced Pretoria to come to defend its proteges, to use nonconventional weapons, and to intensify its reconnaissance flights and other criminal actions against the Angolan people. During October, for example, 28 South Africans violated Angolan airspace [as heard] on 7 occasions. Rocket fire was used against FAPLA positions once, and a concentration of South African troops was detected outside the already established occupation area. South African troops also mined a number of regions of Cunene Province, thus preventing the free movement of FAPLA forces. During one of these operations, one FAPLA combatant was wounded and a Ural troop carrier was destroyed. However, FAPLA moved several of their units to Mulondo region where they destroyed a South African (?Ratel) armored vehicle, killing all of its occupants.

Meanwhile, three UNITA bandits were killed and an assortment of war materiel of South African origin was captured by FAPLA on 10 October when a bandit group, which attempted to move in the direction of Bailundo, Huambo, attacked civilians in the region. Other actions have been carried out by the glorious FAPLA in Cuanza Sul, Bie, Huila, Cuando Cubango, and Huambo Provinces, killing 77 bandits — 3 in Cuando Cubango and 41 in Cuanza Sul — and capturing several others. A number of bases were destroyed.

Further on Ministry Statement

AB042110 Luanda ANGOP in French 1800 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Luanda 4 Nov (ANGOP) — In October 80 bandits in the pay of racist South Africa were killed and 50 others were captured during counteroffensives launched by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA) — the Angolan Armed Forces — and by the People's Defense Organization (ODP) against the camps of puppet bands in Cuando Cubango, Cunene, Huila (south), Huambo, Bie (center), and Cuanza Sul (east). This was announced in a statement by the Angolan Defense Ministry.

The statement, which was made public today in Luanda, pointed out that FAPLA, in reaction to attacks launched by South

African regular troops and the Angolan puppets who are trying to consolidate their occupation of Cunene Province and even to extend this occupation to other zones in southern Angola, destroyed one Ratel-type armored vehicle and seized an important quantity of war material, including light weapons, mines, antitank vehicles, R-105 radio transmission equipment, chargers, [words indistinct] in the puppets camps were completely destroyed.

During 10-21 October racist South African troops carried out seven reconnaissance (?missions), the statement stressed, saying that 28 South African planes entered Angolan airspace. It will be recalled that during these operations, 17 FAPLA fighters were killed and 2 others wounded, while 1 Ural-type vehicle belonging to FAPLA was destroyed.

Lubango Communique: 76 UNITA Members Killed

MB041454 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] In operations carried out recently in Bie and Huila Provinces the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] killed 76 UNITA counterrevolutionaries. A total of 47 bandits were killed when they tried to attack a FAPLA position in Calucinga, Bie Province, while the remaining 29 were killed during cleanup operations carried out in Huila Province by the FAPLA and People's Defense Organization combatants.

The regional military council, which also covers Huila Province, has issued a communique in Lubango in which it points out that during actions carried out in the region a number of head of cattle stolen by the puppets from civilians were recovered. The communique also said that a large quantity of weapons as well as a large quantity of Portuguese currency were seized.

ANGOP has reported from Cuanza Sul that following the victorious offensive carried out by FAPLA in that province and because UNITA gangsters see the possibilities of carrying out their acts of destabilization increasingly reduced, many counterrevolutionaries are now seeking refuge with Angolan authorities. Accordingly, after suffering the most painful privations for many years, three UNITA bandits recently handed themselves over to FAPLA in Cuanza Sul. At a rally held in Fungo to present them to the public, the three counterrevolutionaries described their life in the bush and also explained that their daily life of theft, death, and flight from FAPLA and the people has contributed to their surrender to Cuanza Sul authorities. They expressed satisfaction over the possibility of being reintegrated into society. They also expressed their readiness to actively contribute in the tasks of national reconstruction.

The victories achieved by FAPLA are only possible due to the dynamism of Angolan young men, now reinforced with new military cadres resulting from this year's national induction plan. Thousands of young men who have just joined FAPLA in all the provinces of our country will soon begin their military instruction period, which will certainly prepare them to fight against the internal and external forces of reaction. Meanwhile, young men continue to present themselves for induction in various parts of the country. Many young men continue to join the People's National Army. ANGOP dispatches point out that Lubango, in Huila Province and Ndalatando, in Cuanza Norte Province have already achieved 100 percent turnout for military induction.

In Luanda the period for young men to report for military induction has been extended for a few more days to enable those who have not yet reported to do so legally. According to a dispatch from the Luanda Province recruitment and mobilization center, signed by its head, First Lieutenant (Hugo dos Passos), young men can still report for military induction 7-10 November 1983 at Commander (Jinga) Political and Military School. The dispatch points out that all those who have not reported by 10 November 1983 will be considered violators and will as such be punished in accordance with military law.

It is also worth noting that in Huambo Province new cadres have recently been trained, and they will use the knowledge they have acquired against UNITA criminal gangsters operating in the region.

Further on Communique

AB040807 Dakar PANA in French 1825 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Lubango, 3 November (ANGOP/PANA) — During clashes which took place in August and September in Huila Province, 28 UNITA puppets were killed and 10 others were captured by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], who also seized important war materiel, according to a communique issued in Lubango by the regional military council of that area.

The communique also reported that the FAPLA found military equipment in the area as well as Portuguese banknotes, and the operation also made it possible to recover a large number of cattle stolen recently from the people of the area by the puppets.

The arms, ammunition, uniforms, and other military equipment recovered by the FAPLA were made in South Africa, the communique said, which confirms that the puppets are mere complementary terrorist groups belonging to the South African regular invasion forces, which have been continuously attacking Angola since 1975.

10 'Bandits' Presented to Lubango Media

MB061216 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] In Huila Province an additional 10 bandits captured recently by defense and security organs and were displayed to the media in the city of Lubango the day before yesterday.

An assortment of grenades, 81-mm and 82-mm mortar shells, and RPG-7 charges, all of South African manufacture, as well as various G-3 light weapons were also displayed as part of the materiel captured from the enemy.

AFP: Forces Attack UNITA Front in Southwest

NC061856 Paris AFP in English 1658 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Geneva, Nov 6 (AFP) — Angolan Government forces practically wiped out the UNITA rebel movement's "second strategic front" in southwestern Angola last week, a government source said here today. The source, who wished to remain anonymous, said the government troops had launched a "surprise attack" against the South African-backed rebels which ended on Wednesday after the battle in the Huambo and Bie regions and to the east of Cuanza Sul Province where 4,000-5,000 UNITA men were based. "Mopping-up operations are still underway in a village close to Quibula where the second front's command was based," the source said.

The surprise effect of the attack, which was ordered by Defence Minister Pedro Maria Tonha, was reportedly obtained because Cuban advisers working for the ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) had jammed radio waves in the region. The source said that the government's next objective would be to recover territory in UNITA's "first strategic front" further to the south and east in Cuando Cubango and Moxico Provinces.

He said that UNITA had about 10,000 troops in the sector and that the danger of clashing with South African troops in the region would increase. He said the first operation was ordered after UNITA had advanced to 120 kms (70 miles) from Luanda and were threatening the Angolan capital as well as the northern regions where important diamond mines are situated. An Angolan official is to visit the United States this week for talks with U.S. officials about the situation in Angola.

MOZAMBIQUE

Soviet Delegation Arrives for GOSR Celebrations

MB041120 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] A Soviet friendship and solidarity delegation led by Askar Tursunov, minister of higher education and member of the CPSU Central Committee [title as heard], arrived in the city of Maputo this morning. The delegation, which is accompanied by a cultural and artistic group from the Kirgiz SSR, will take part in the Mozambique-USSR friendship and solidarity week and the Soviet national day celebrations in our country. The cultural and artistic group from the Kirgiz SSR will stage shows on Kirgiz's popular art in the cities of Maputo, Beira, and Nampula. This delegation will tour the Eduardo Mondlane University, the Matola Industrial School, and the Maputo Pedagogic and Industrial Institute.

Festivities Begin

MB071027 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] The Soviet Union cultural delegation which has been in our country for the past few days goes to the city of Beira today. The delegation has been making a visit to our country as part of the Mozambique-Soviet Union solidarity week celebrations marking the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR]. The delegation will stay 2 days in Beira, where it will stage cultural shows at one of the city's film houses. Meanwhile, a photographic exhibition was opened at the 3 February theater in the city of Beira the day before yesterday as part of the GOSR celebrations.

Machel Asks for U.S. Understanding of Region

MB061246 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] President Samora Machel has asked for the understanding of U.S. President Ronald Reagan that the violence in southern Africa is apartheid. President Samora was speaking in Maputo yesterday when he received credentials from the newly appointed U.S. ambassador to Mozambique, Peter de Vos. President Samora called on the U.S. to join with Mozambique in ensuring that South Africa, like the United States, should be a nation of men and women and not a complex of races. Mozambique wanted peace, development, and relations with all other states but without racial discrimination. The president said: We regard racial discrimination as an insult to mankind in which there are no superior races. He pleaded for an understanding that the South African people were asking only for equality, justice, democracy, and respect from human rights.

Mr De Vos said Mozambique and the U.S. are dedicated to putting an end to the cycle of armed conflict in southern Africa. He paid tribute to Mozambique's long-term plans to raise living standards and said the U.S. is giving active consideration to ways of supporting these efforts.

Machel Affirms Police Role on 'Legality Day'

MB061234 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] President Samora Machel said in Maputo yesterday during a function marking Legality Day and the Mozambique People's Police [PPM] that this date marks the involvement of all police members and, above all, a moment to assess all that has been done. Speaking before officials of the Ministry of the Interior, the Mozambique head of state said that Legality Day must be viewed as a chance to assess the relationship between PPM and the people, the struggle against vagrancy, police growth with regard to cadres, either in quantity or quality, and awareness and scientific growth. President Samora Machel a new society and said that this requires a continuing improvement in the level of knowledge of its members through education and improvement in their habitat.

On the same occasion President Samora Machel announced that in the future only people with talent can join PPM. The Mozambique supreme leader stressed that police duty does not serve as compulsory military service. He added that a police school for the selection of PPM members will be created within a year. The Mozambique head of state also announced the beginning of a continued investigation into the activities of every PPM member.

Trade Union Established at Founding Conference

MB030936 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Mozambique's first ever trade union federation came into being early this afternoon with the foundation of the Mozambique Workers Association, the OTM. As Frelimo Political Bureau member Mariano Matsinhe put forward the proposal for the creation of the OTM, a brass band marched into the conference hall, the delegates rose to their feet, and the motion was passed by popular acclaim. Delegates then began dancing in the aisles where they were joined by members of the presidium.

Mr Matsinhe, who is chairing the founding conference, spoke of the great joy at the creation of Mozambique's first true trade unions. He said the production councils, which have been representing the workers' interests for the past 7 years, had served as an apprenticeship in union work. However, he warned that there was much experience still to be gained before the OTM could achieve the party's tasks, before it could achieve socialism.

The delegates spent most of the morning discussing the statutes and program of the new organization, which state that membership will be opened to all Mozambican workers. Foreign workers resident in the country can also join, but will not be eligible for election to leadership posts. The statutes also state that the OTM will be guided and led by the Frelimo Party. Several foreign delegates also presented messages to the conference today. The secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions, Jan Nemoudry, said imperialism had reached a crisis and had, therefore, become more cruel and aggressive. The current situation in southern Africa was proof of this, he said. The assistant secretary of the National Union of Namibian Workers, (Pejavi Munyaro), condemned the recent South African attack on the ANC's information office in Maputo.

Leadership Elected

MB041525 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The Frelimo Party secretary for economic policy, Marcelino dos Santos, has warned Mozambican workers against the enemy, who may respond with new attacks following the creation of Mozambique's first trade unions. Closing the founding conference of the Mozambique trade union movement, held in Maputo since Monday, Mr dos Santos said the creation of socialist unions in Mozambique will certainly provoke new maneuvers by the class enemy. He said the unions have been created to carry out the work of the Frelimo Party among the workers. They are the party's instruments in mobilizing and organizing workers for an increase in production and productivity.

The closing session was preceded by elections for the leadership of the new trade unions. First, delegates elected a central council, which then elected Augusto Macamo as secretary general and Jose Correia Ganancio as assistant secretary general. Mr Macamo was the head of production councils that laid the basis for the setting up of the new trade union movement. The delegates also passed several resolutions, including one which condemns apartheid as a permanent threat to peace.

Officials Named

AB041300 Dakar PANA in English 1233 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Maputo, 4 Nov (AIM/PANA) — The founding conference of Mozambique's trade union body, the OTM [Workers' Organization of Mozambique], closed last night after the election of a "central council" and a secretariat. The elections took place during a closed session, after which the results were read out by Armando Panguene, a member of the Central Committee Secretariat of the Frelimo Party.

The "central council" consists of 93 members, and is the supreme body of the OTM in between conferences. The council will normally meet every six months. The secretariat, elected by the central council, consists of a general secretary, an executive secretary and three other members. The secretariat functions as the executive body of the OTM.

The general secretary elected by the council is Augusto Macamo. He is an electrician by profession, and was at the head of the workers' organization that preceded the OTM, the production council, from their creation in 1976 onwards. He is a member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee. The executive secretary, who deputizes for the general secretary, is Jose Correia Ganancio, a plumber by trade who used to work at the port of Maputo. He is also a member of the Frelimo Central Committee, and is currently national director of road transport.

Resolution Adopted on Grenada

AB041306 Dakar PANA in English 1240 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Maputo, 4 Nov (AIM/PANA) — The newly-created Mozambican trade union organization, the OTM [Workers' Organization of Mozambique], in the closing session of its founding conference last night, has adopted a resolution strongly condemning the United States' invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada. This "ignominious action" says the resolution, violated "the most basic principles of civilised behaviour among nations. The United States has disregarded, in the most brutal and arrogant fashion, the principle of sovereignty. The United States has, in the name of democracy, cynically trampled upon the rights to self-determination, independence, progress and social justice."

The attack upon Grenada is seen by the resolution as "an attempt to return to primitive colonialism," and is compared to the "state banditry practised by the Zionist regime of Israel and the Nazi-fascist regime of Pretoria against their neighbors in the Middle East and in southern Africa." The resolution concludes by demanding "the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of United States troops," and by pledging "total solidarity with the people of Grenada."

SOUTH AFRICA

SAPA Reports Final Results in 2 Nov Referendum

MB031035 [Editorial Report] Johannesburg SAPA in English at 1025 GMT on 3 November 83 reports: "'Yes' votes narrowly beat the 'no' response in the Pretoria referendum area today to contribute to a final poll in favour of the new constitution. The 'yes' vote in the 15th and final result to be announced totalled 209,763, against 157,433 ballots against the new dispensation. There were 1,035 spoilt papers in this strong Conservative Party area, The CP holds seats in Sunnyside, Barberton, Koedoespoort and Rissik, while the National Party controls a number of other constituencies in the area, including Pretoria West, Roodeplaat, Bethal, Brits and Ermelo. With results in from all of the 15 referendum areas, the position was as follows:" Figures denote: 'votes for,' 'votes against,' 'spoilt papers,'and 'total votes cast' respectively.

"Beaufort West: 22,502; 7,733; 93; 30,328
Bloemfontein: 52,019; 26,960; 331; 79,310
Cape Town: 221,511; 71,456; 1,229; 294,196
Durban: 123,783; 44,442; 750; 168,975
East London: 53,202; 15,087; 255; 68,544
George: 31,256; 11,426; 141; 42,823
Germiston: 113,600; 60,241; 900; 174,741
Johannesburg: 194,396; 85,554; 3,906; 283,856
Kimberley: 34,815; 17,898; 110; 52,823
Kroonstad: 55,486; 32,321; 189; 87,996
Pietermaritzburg: 50,519; 20,060; 366; 70,945
Pietersburg: 31,403; 34,827; 247; 66,477
Port Elizabeth: 60,661; 25,901; 208; 86,770
Pretoria: 209,763; 157,433; 1,035; 368,231
Roodepoort: 105,307; 80,238; 909; 186,454

Totals: 1,360,223; 691,577; 10,669; 2,062,469

Yes vote majority: 668,646 percentage of total votes cast 'for': 65.95; percentage of total votes cast 'against': 33.53; percentage of total votes 'spoilt': 0.52; estimated percentage poll: 76.02."]

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Names New Cabinet 3 Nov

AB031645 Paris AFP in English 1641 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Lusaka, Nov 3 (AFP) — The new cabinet named today by President Kenneth Kaunda is as follows:

Prime minister: Nalumino Mundia
Agriculture: Unia Mwila
Commerce and Industry: L-S. Subulwa
Cooperatives: J.J. Mukando
Defense: Clement Mwananshiku
Finance: Luke Mwananshiku
Foreign Affairs: Lameck Goma
General Education and Culture: Kebby Musokotwane
Health: Mark Tambatamba
Higher Education: Rajah Kunda
Home Affairs: Frederick Chomba
Information and Broadcasting: Cosmas Chibanda
Labor and Social Services: Frederick Hapunda
Lands and Natural Resources: Fitzpatrick Chuula
Legal Affairs (Attorney General): Gibson Chigaga
Mines: Basil Kabwe
Development Planning: Henry Meebelo
National Guidance: Arnold Simuchimba
Power, Transport and Communications: Kingsley Chinkuli
Tourism: Roger Sakuhuka
Works and Supply: Haswell Mwale
Youth and Sport: Ben Kakoma

Further Appointments Announced

MB032037 [Editorial Report] Lusaka Domestic Service in English at 1815 GMT on 3 November 1983 carries a report on the announcement of the new cabinet. The announcer says in part: "President Kaunda has named a new-look cabinet which he has charged with the task of effecting economic recovery in the nation. Dr Kaunda announced the cabinet line-up at State House press conference 5 days after being sworn in as a republican president and emphasized that economic recovery will only come about through serious decisions." He announces that the following have been appointed "from the Central Committee": Secretary of State for Defense and Security A.G. Zulu; Chairman of Appointments and Disciplinary Committee (E.H.K. Mudenda); Chairman of Social and Cultural Committee (J.B. Alitela).

The announcer then reads the names and posts of the prime minister and the ministers of power, foreign affairs, development planning, works, and finance. The program then shifts to a recording of President Kaunda reading the appointments and making various comments about the men and the posts. Kaunda reads the remainder of the cabinet positions. Interspersed among them he mentions the following additional appointments as ministers of state:

Civil Service — (Jeremy Mondela)
[Title indistinct] — Mavis Muyonda
Agriculture — Daniel Munkonbwe
Commerce and Industry — (R.S. Zimba)
Cooperatives — (R.K Banda)
Finance — Jameson Kalaluka
(Reappointed to unspecified post) — Ottema Musuka
Education and Culture — (K. Shepande)
Education and Culture [as heard] — (R.B Chota)
Health — (Zipetanchi)
Higher Education — (Ziyanga)
Home Affairs — Elizabeth Nkomeshya
Lands and Natural Resources — Cosmas Masongo
Mines — (Siyafa)
Development Planning — (L. Munumumba)
Power, Transport, and Communications — (Simon Kalabo)
Tourism — (Ernest Kalunbe)
Works and Supply — (Noah Dilamonde)
Youth and Sports — (Joseph Kapongo)

Kaunda Comments on Cabinet

MB040928 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] President Kaunda has said that concern for peace and stability in the nation claimed a major role in helping him appoint people to various posts in the party and its government. Dr Kaunda said at a press conference today that so far the criteria he's used in choosing people to the cabinet and other bodies has been a good one, that is why Zambia is in peace and not in pieces. Answering questions from reporters, Dr Kaunda said that politicians who are appointed to cabinet posts are not technocrats, but are there to give political guidance. He said that anyone has a good mind and ability to run an operation and guide it to its conclusion without necessarily being a technocrat can be appointed to the cabinet.

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Reaffirms Policy of 'Coexistence'

MB041208 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has reaffirmed Zimbabwe's policy of coexistence with its neighbors. In an interview yesterday, Comrade Mugabe deplored the fact that the South African regime is not reciprocating this gesture and continues to wage a vicious war against its peace-loving neighbors. The prime minister said Zimbabwe has no intentions of attacking South Africa, but will act in self-defense if its territorial integrity is violated. Commenting on domestic issues, Comrade Mugabe noted that 1983 has been the most difficult year for Zimbabwe, because of the drought and world recession. He said the activities of dissidents have also affected the development programs. Comrade Mugabe added that the government is trying hard to resist all these pressures so that 1984 can see Zimbabwe on a better economic footing.

Mugabe Warns Sithole To End Secret Meetings

MB051216 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has issued a strong warning to the leader of ZANU-(?Ndiweni), Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, (?to refrain from) mixing with subversive elements bent on destabilizing Zimbabwe. Addressing a meeting of the Mashonaland Central Women's League district officials in Bindura today, Comrade Mugabe demanded an immediate tionary groups in an effort to disturb the peace and stability in the country. He accused the Rev Sithole and Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the leader of United African National Council, of refusing to accept the hand of friendship and mistaking reconciliation for cowardice.

Further on Mugabe Warning

MB060730 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has announced that a national women's congress is to be convened to elect leadership for the ZANU-PF women's wing after the present exercise of organizing the women's league. Addressing a meeting of the party's Mashonaland East Women's League in Marandera yesterday, Comrade Mugabe said at present the women's league leadership is made up of Comrade Teurai Ropa Nhonga and the wife of the prime minister, Comrade Sally Mugabe. Comrade Mugabe said the women's league, together with the young wing, will form the backbone of the party. Earlier this week Comrade Teurai Ropa Nhonga said the organization exercise should be completed by mid next month.

Addressing a similar meeting for women in Bindura earlier in the day, prime minister warned leaders of the minority parties, including Ndabaningi Sithole and Joshua Nkomo, that they risked arrest if they continue plotting against the people's government. He said the arrest of Bishop Abel Muzorewa is a warning to all those who seek to undermine or overthrow the government.

Comrade Mugabe reported of an incident in (Mburu) 3 weeks ago, in which five dissidents shot and killed all passengers traveling in a civilian car. Four of the dissidents were later intercepted and killed instantly by police. The fifth, who was injured and arrested, confessed to having been sent by ZAPU on a killing rampage. Comrade Mugabe said against this background, every Zimbabwean should be security conscious. He said it is the duty of everyone to protect the country against subversive elements. The prime minister appealed for cooperation from the public by reporting antigovernment elements to local authorities.

Sithole Scores Media Coverage of Muzorewa Arrest

MB041328 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1051 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Harare, Nov 4, SAPA — The Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, a former prominent African nationalist leader, who still heads a small party called the Zimbabwe African National Union (Sithole), which is unrepresented in parliament, today strongly criticised the Zimbabwe press and radio for their treatment of the arrest of United African National Congress leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa. In a statement, Mr Sithole said: "The national television, radio and newspapers which have all become the monopoly of the government and ZANU-PF have not published the countrywide adverse reactions to Muzorewa's arrest. They have all remained silent, thus giving the false impression that the public are indifferent to his unjustifiable arrest when, in fact, the various political, religious as well as other groups in Zimbabwe are deeply concerned." Zimbabweans were now having to tune to Radio South Africa, the BBC, the Voice of America and other foreign stations to know the true reaction of some of Zimbabwe's political and religious activists, Mr Sithole said. If the press in Zimbabwe were really free, he added, some of these adverse reactions would have been published for the benefit of the public and in the interest of justice.

"When Muzorewa was arrested on Monday, it was falsely told to his lawyer and his wife that he was being held in the Harare central police station. But three days later it transpired that he was being held in Goromonzi and that at no time had he been held at the central police station. Muzorewa's refusal to eat any food from his arrestors was treated as a non-event by our television, radio and newspapers, which now appear to be bent on hiding the truth from the public whose confidence is being rapidly undermined. What we demand of our government is that they allow to be published the two sides of the Muzorewa case. To publish one side and refuse to publish the other is to do gross injustice to the other and to undermine public confidence in the government of the day," he said.

AFP: UANC Says Muzorewa on Hunger Strike

AB041253 Paris AFP in English 1235 GMT 4 Nov 83

[By Dave Clemens]

[Text] Harare, Nov 4 (AFP) — Detained former Prime Minister Abel Muzorewa has been on hunger strike since he was arrested by Zimbabwean security police on Monday, high officials of his opposition United African National Council (UANC) said today. The officials, speaking to a small group of reporters prior to a news conference at which the UANC condemned its leader's arrest, confirmed a press statement by another opposition politician, Ndabaningi Sithole, earlier in the day. Meanwhile, the UANC said Bishop Muzorewa's lawyers were to petition the high court over his detention later today.

The government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has said Bishop Muzorewa was arrested because he is suspected of clandestine activity against the state involving contacts with Israel and white-ruled South Africa. Mr Sithole's statement said the bishop, with whom he was associated in a white-backed coalition in 1978-79 before Mr Mugabe's government came to power, had "refused to eat any food from his arresters."

UANC officials said the bishop, who is a clergyman of the United Methodist Church, had taken no food from Monday through yesterday at Goromonzi jail 35 kms (22 miles) east of Harare, where he is being held. The officials would not divulge the source of their information. Bishop Muzorewa has been barred from seeing members of his family, but has been allowed to see a lawyer.

At the news conference, held before about 200 chanting women supporters of the bishop, UANC First Vice-President Walter Mthimkulu accused Mr Mugabe's ruling ZANU party of arresting Bishop Muzorewa to divert attention from Zimbabwe's economic difficulties — rising prices and stagnant employment. "The government is scared out of its pants", he said. "Obviously they are rapidly losing support from all corners of the country. This is an attempt to scare people out of supporting the UANC."

Addressing the specific allegations against Bishop Muzorewa, Mr Mthimkulu termed "idiotic and amateurish" the government claim that the UANC leader had planned to meet South African officials while on a four-hour stopover in Johannesburg on the way to the United States for a church meeting next week. He denied that the bishop had advocated the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel during his recent trip there, and said that even if he had, "is that a crime?"

The government's argument that 5,000 former Muzorewa militiamen were training in South Africa for missions against Zimbabwe had first been raised three years ago, "so why has it taken so long for any of them to be deployed if they are really there?" Mr Mthimkulu said the prime minister himself had told Bishop Muzorewa several months ago in the presence of both UANC and ZANU officials that Mr Mugabe accepted Bishop Muzorewa had nothing to do with any Zimbabweans receiving military training in South Africa.

Reregistration of White Roll Voters Ordered

MB050919 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, has ordered a of next month and 8 June next year. According to a proclamation gazetted yesterday, this is the first reregistration for several years and in that time many of those who are left have moved to new constituencies or have left the country. According to the constitution, all Zimbabwean citizens over the age of 18, and of European, Asian, or Colored descent are eligible for registration on the white roll.

Reports on Terrorism in Matabeleland Banned

MB041817 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1335 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Harare, Nov 4, SAPA — The Zimbabwean Government today banned unauthorised publication of information on sabotage, terrorist acts or anti-terrorist operations in Matabeleland and three other districts for the next two months. The only exceptions to the ban are reports on information released by the government, or revealed in court or parliamentary proceedings.

Imposed in terms of emergency powers invoked in August, the ban covers a vast area of the country, including the Provinces of North and South Matabeleland and the districts of Gokwe, Gweru and Kwekwe. In terms of the regulations, published in today's government gazette, the minister of information, posts and telecommunications is empowered to impose conditions under which information on terrorism may be published. No information on the conditions imposed by the minister may be published or broadcast, the gazette said. The maximum penalty for breach of the regulations is a fine of Zimbabwe dollars 1,000 (about R1,100), two year's imprisonment or both.